

High Energy Dilepton Experiments

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Experiments @ SPS



SPS @ CERN

- SuperProtonSynchrotron (since 1976)

- **parameters**

- circumference: 6.9 km
- beams for fixed target experiments
 - protons up to 450 GeV/c
 - lead up to 158 GeV/c

- **past**

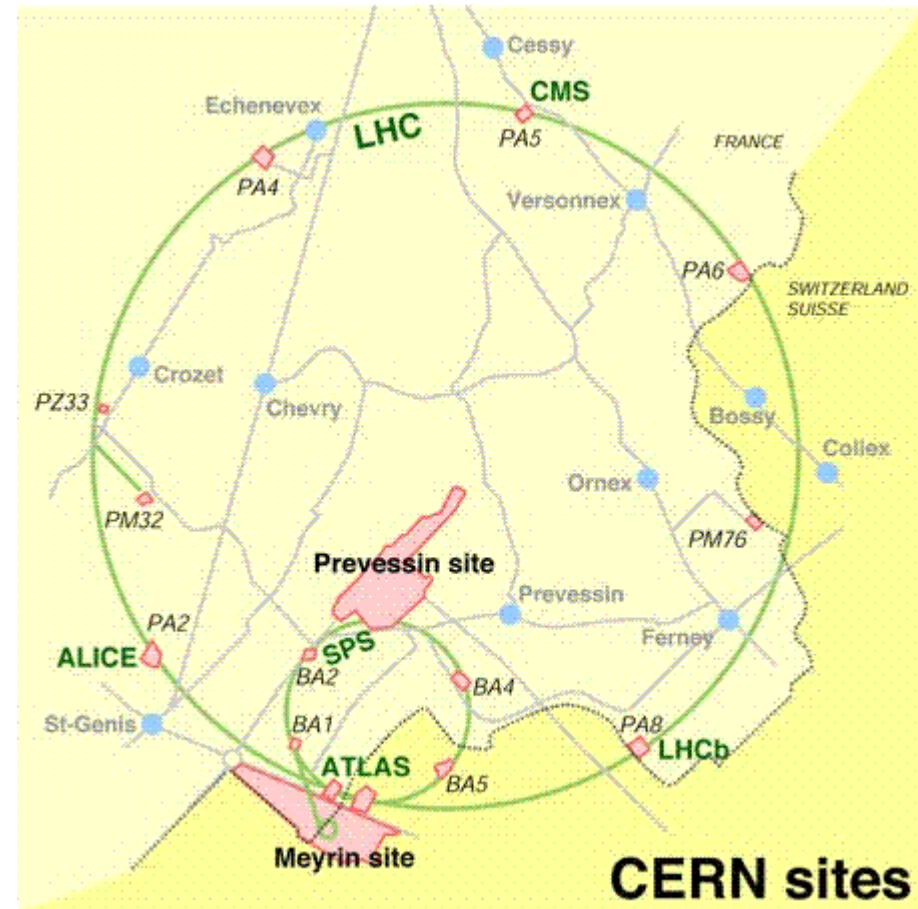
- SppS proton-antiproton collider
 - discovery of vector bosons W^\pm , Z

- **now**

- injector for LHC

- **experiments**

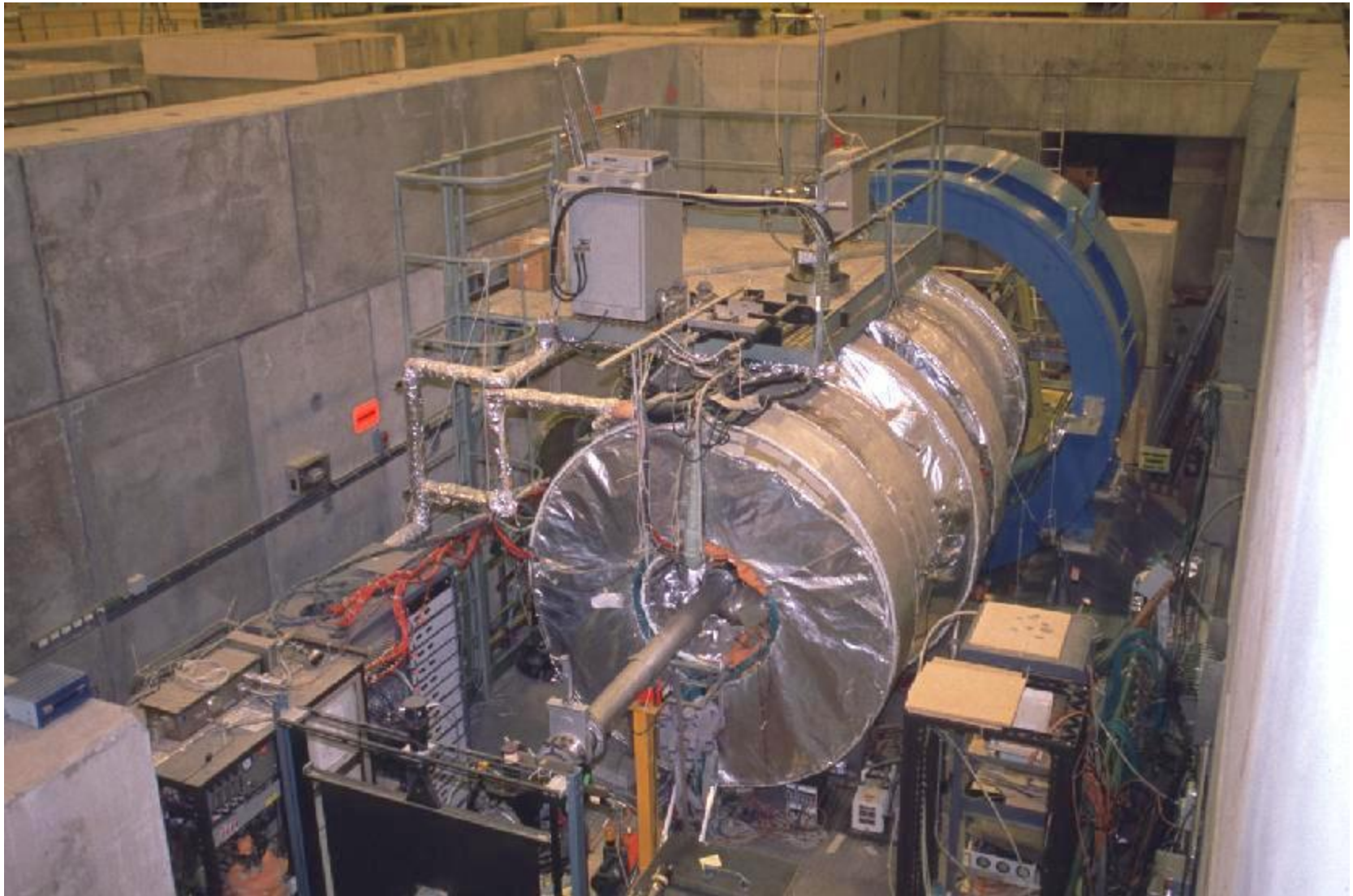
- Switzerland: west area (WA)
- France: north area (NA) → dileptons speak french!



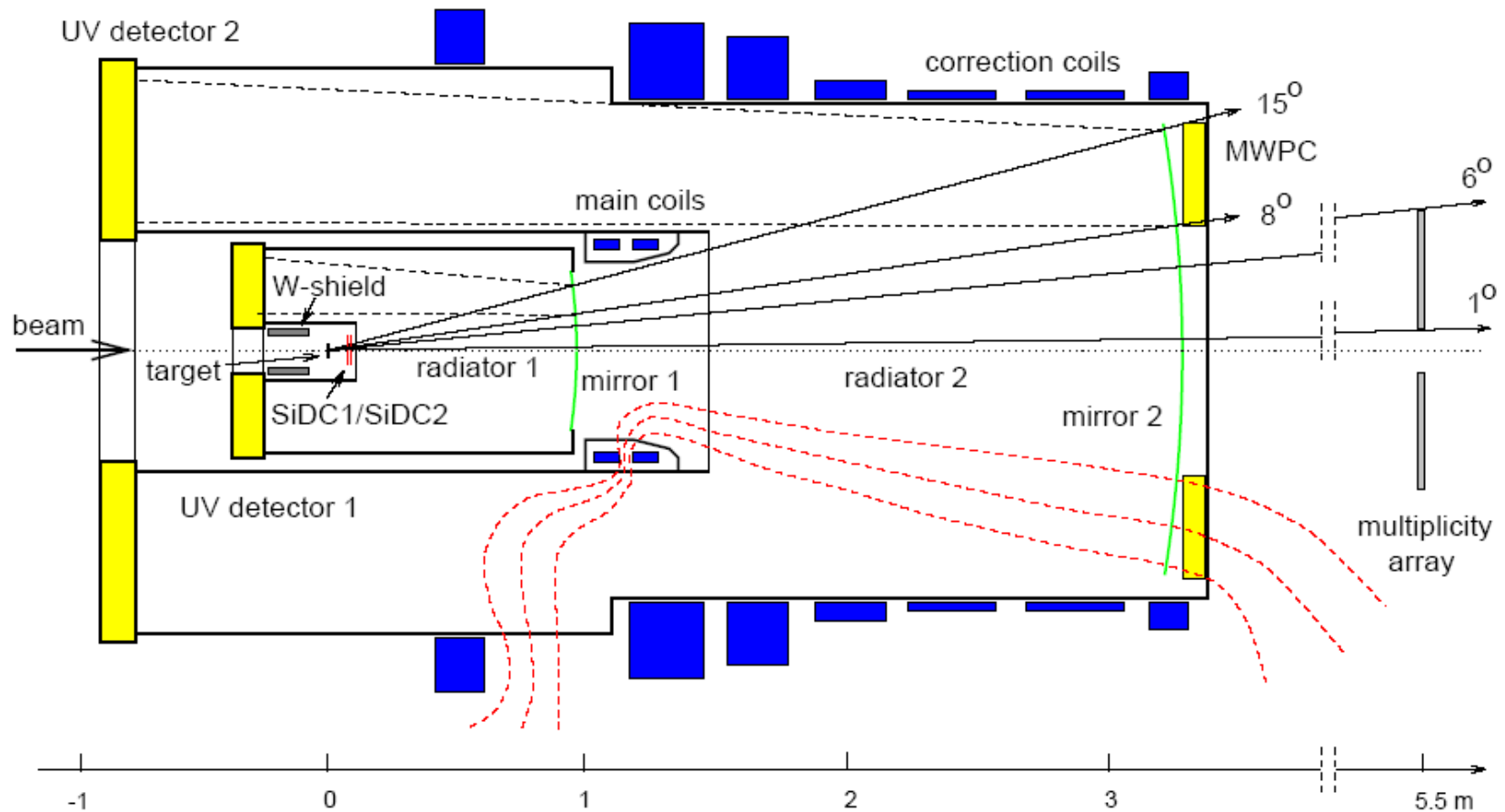
Dilepton experiments @ SPS

| Experiment | | System | Mass range | Publications |
|---------------|------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| HELIOS-1 | $\mu\mu$ ee | p-Be (86) | low mass | Z.Phys. C68 (1995) 64 |
| HELIOS-3 | $\mu\mu$ | p-W, S-W (92) | low & Intermediate | E.Phys.J. C13(2000)433 |
| CERES | ee | pBe, pAu, SAu (92/93) Pb-Au (95) Pb-Au (96) | low mass | PRL (1995) 1272 Phys.Lett. B (1998) 405 Nucl.Phys. A661 (1999) 23 |
| CERES-2 | ee | Pb-Au 40 GeV (99) Pb-Au 158 GeV (2000) | low mass | PRL 91 (2002) 42301 preliminary data 2004 |
| NA38/ NA50 | $\mu\mu$ | p-A, S-Cu, S-U, Pb-Pb | low (high m_T) intermediate | E.Phys.J. C13 (2000) 69 E.Phys.J. C14 (2000) 443 |
| NA60 | $\mu\mu$ | p-A, In-In (2002,2003) p-A (2004) | $>2m_\mu$ | PRL 96 (2006) 162302 |

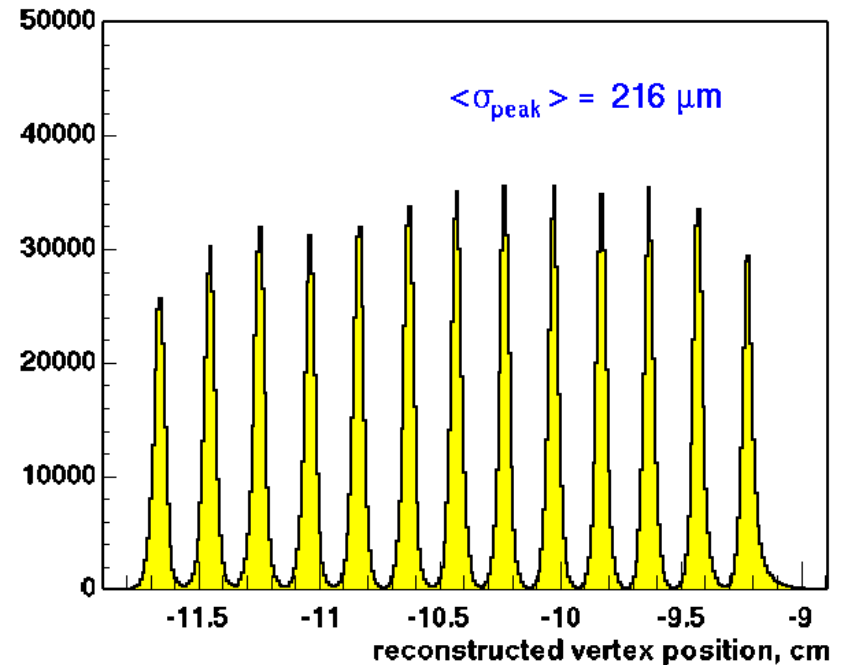
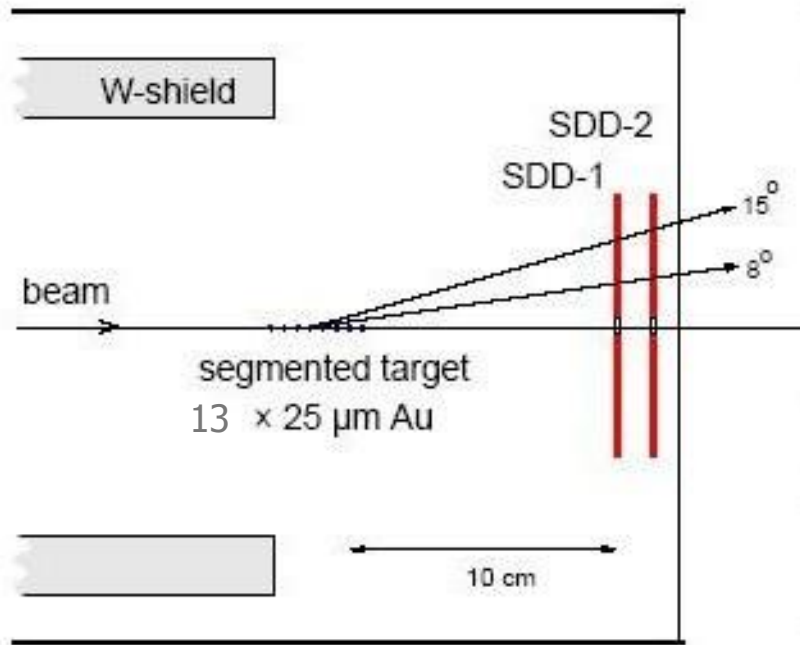
The CERES/NA45 experiment



Experimental setup: CERES-1



Target region



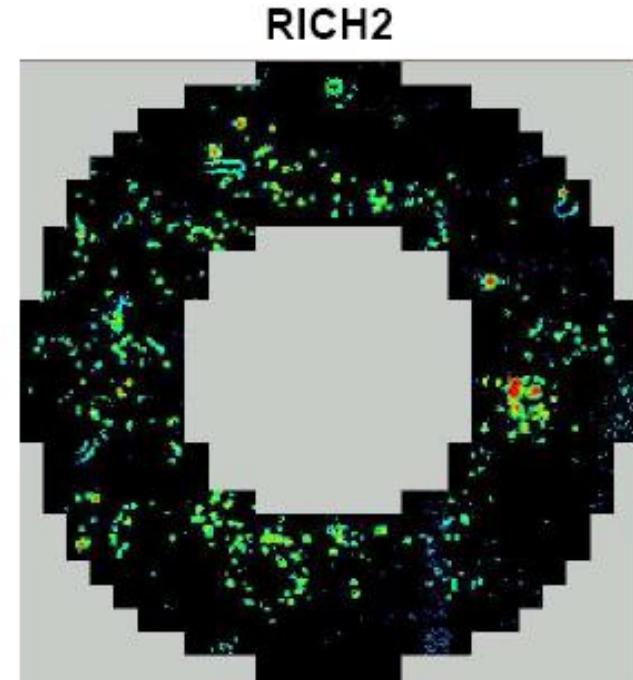
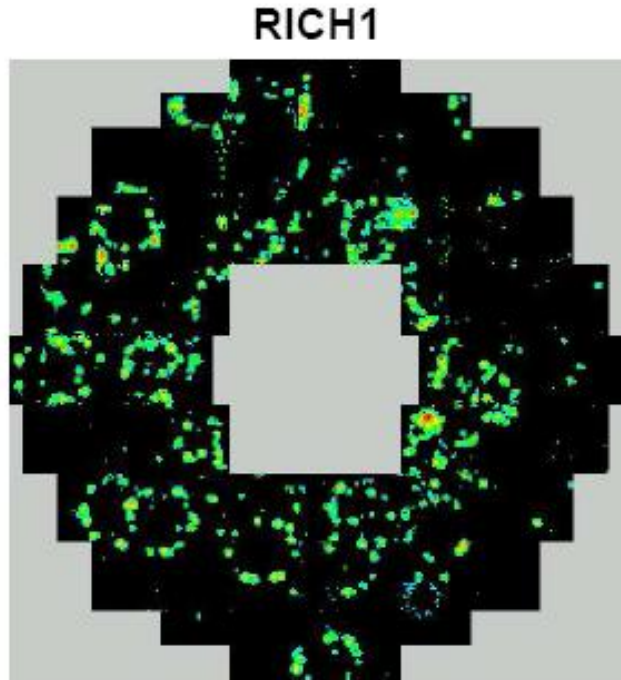
- segmented target

- 13 Au disks (thickness: 25 μm; diameter: 600 μm)

- Silicon drift chambers:

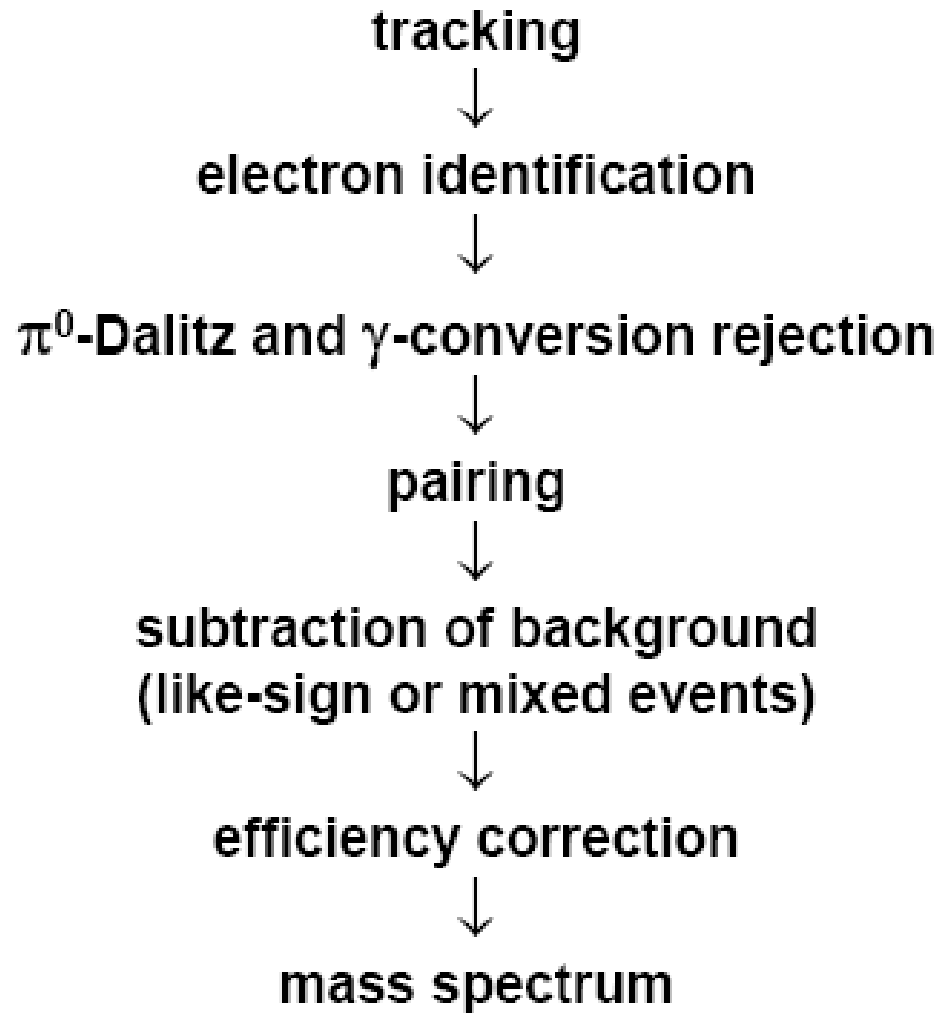
- provide vertex: $\sigma_z = 216 \mu\text{m}$
- provide event multiplicity ($\eta = 1.0 - 3.9$)
- powerful tool to recognize conversions at the target

Electron identification: RICH



- main tool for electron ID
- use the number of hits per ring (and their analog sum) to recognize single and double rings

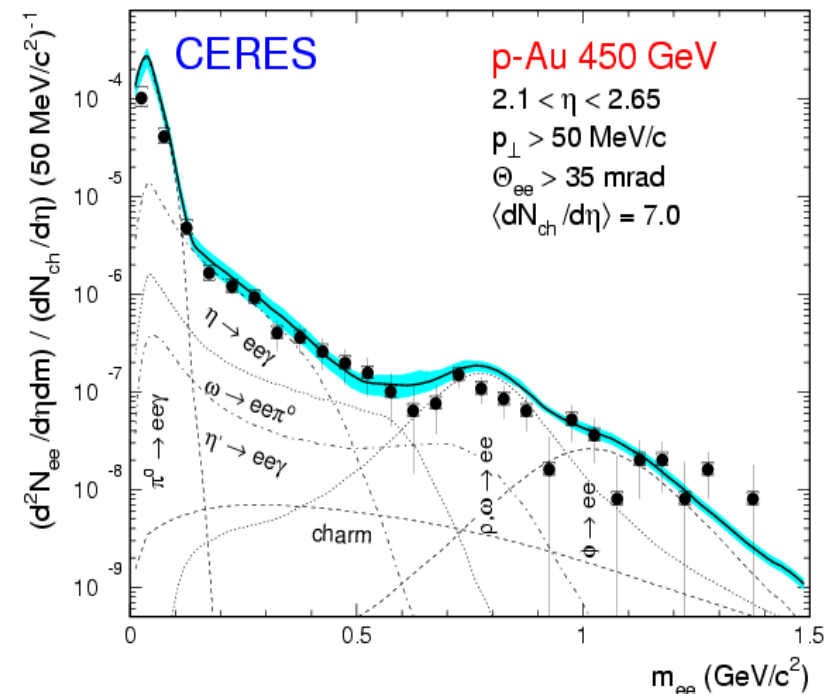
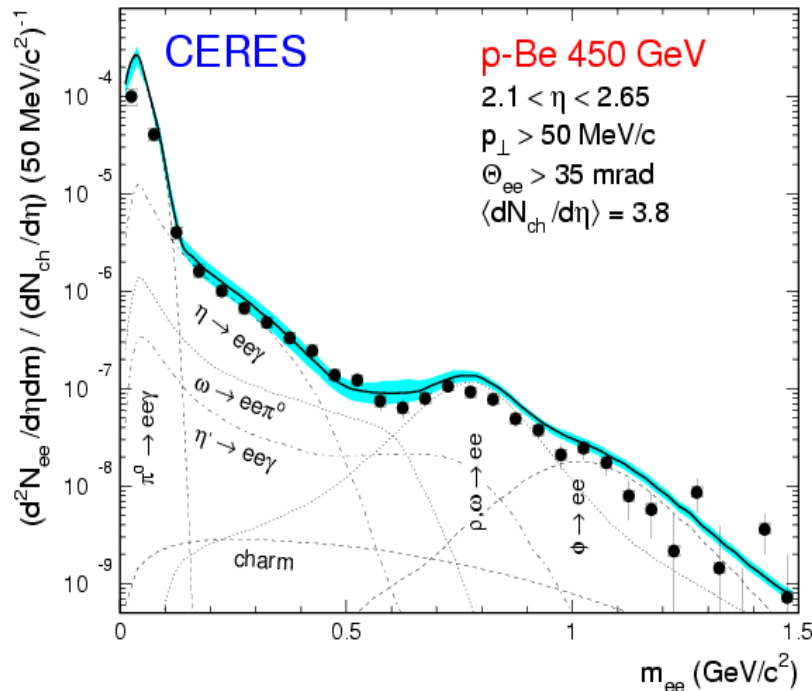
Dielectron analysis strategy



e^+e^- in p+Be & p+Au collisions

- dielectron mass spectra and expectation from a 'cocktail' of known sources

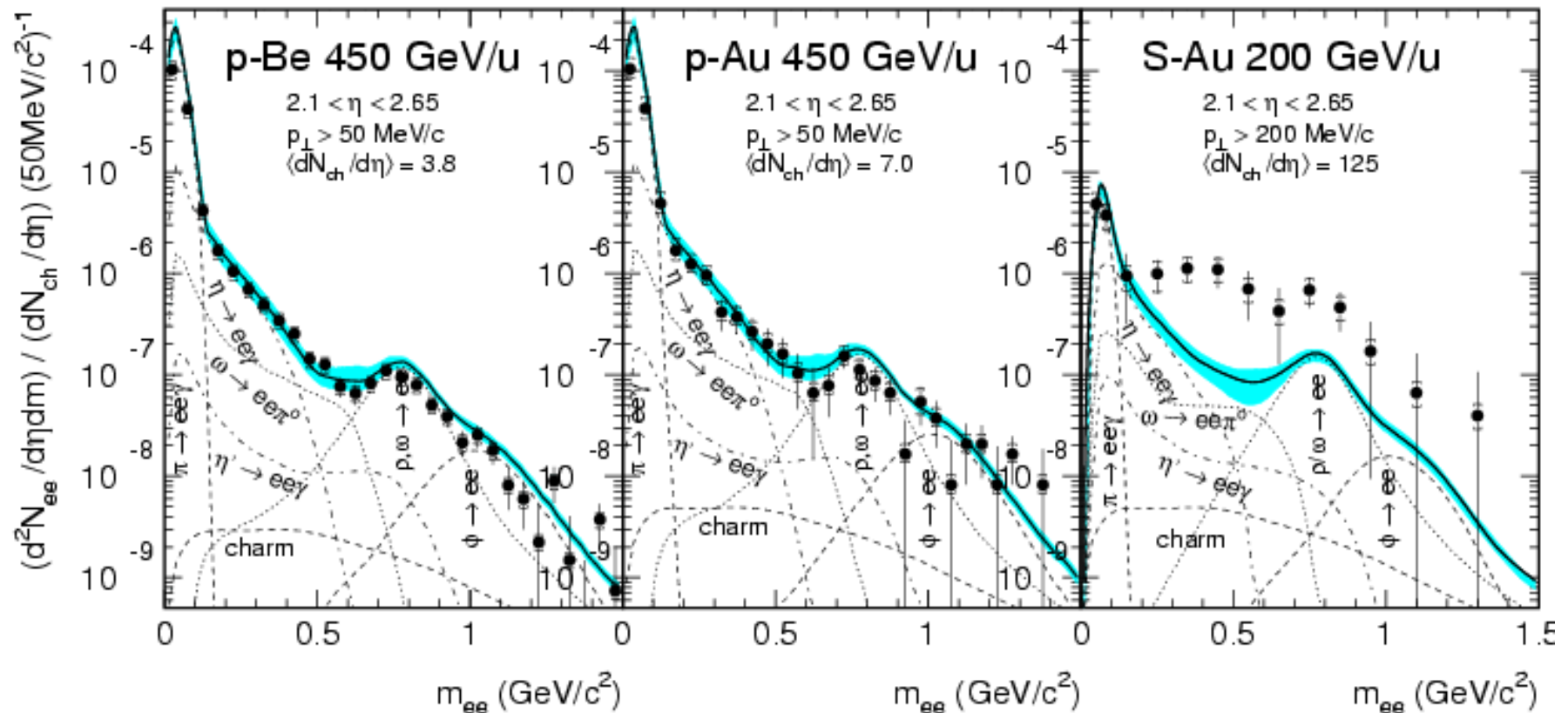
- Dalitz decays of neutral mesons ($\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma e^+e^-$ and $\eta, \omega, \eta', \phi$)
- dielectron decays of vector mesons ($\rho, \omega, \phi \rightarrow e^+e^-$)
- semileptonic decays of particles carrying charm quarks



→ dielectron production in p+p and p+A collisions at SPS well understood in terms of known hadronic sources

What about heavy-ion collisions?

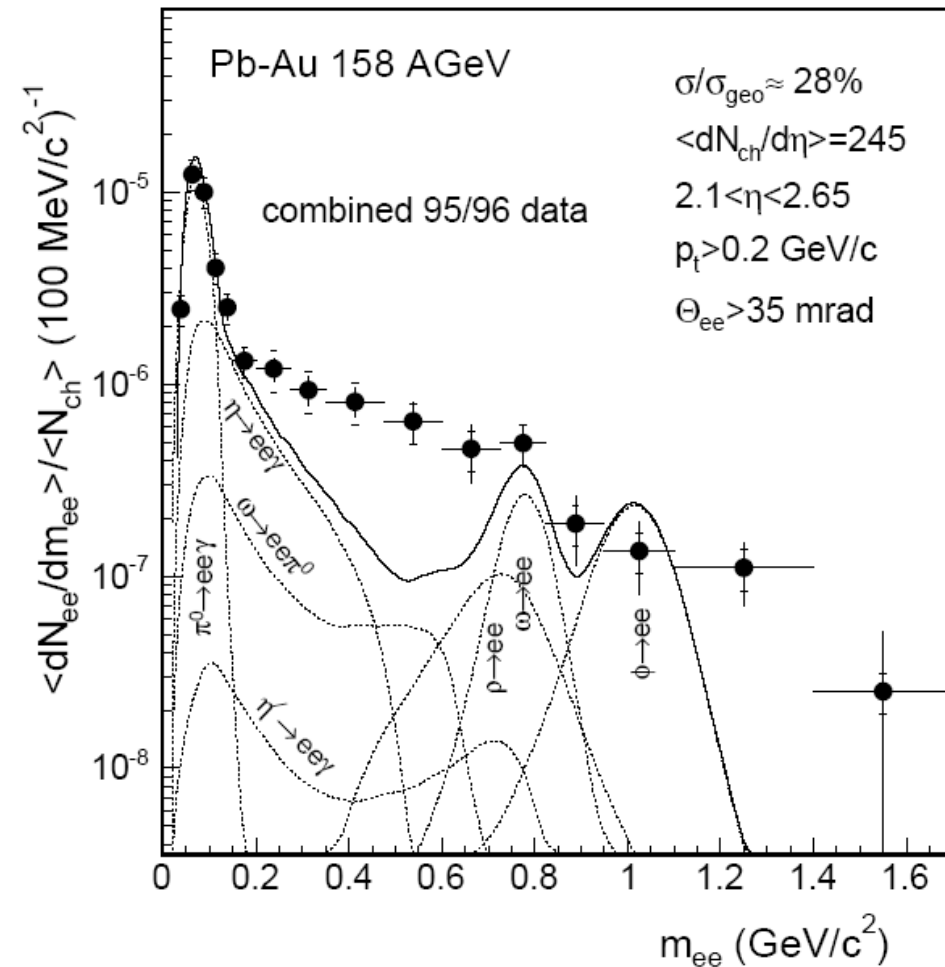
CERES PRL 92 (95) 1272



- discovery of low mass e^+e^- enhancement in 1995
 - significant excess in S-Au (factor ~ 5 for $m > 200 \text{ MeV}$)

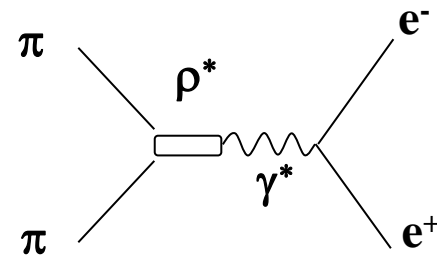
As heavy as it gets: Pb+Au

CERES Eur.Phys.Jour. C41(2005)475



- dielectron excess at low and intermediate masses in HI collisions is well established

- onset at $\sim 2 m_\pi$
 $\rightarrow \pi\text{-}\pi$ annihilation?
- maximum below ρ meson near 400 MeV
 \rightarrow hint for modified ρ meson in dense matter



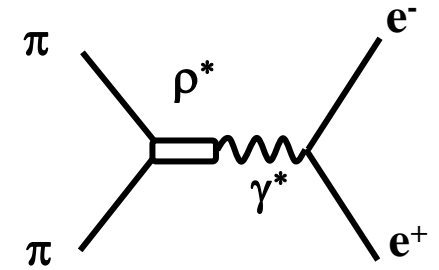
$\pi\pi$ annihilation: theoretical approaches

- low mass enhancement due to $\pi\pi$ annihilation?

- spectral shape dominated ρ meson

- vacuum ρ

- vacuum values of width and mass



- in-medium ρ

- Brown-Rho scaling

- dropping masses as chiral symmetry is restored

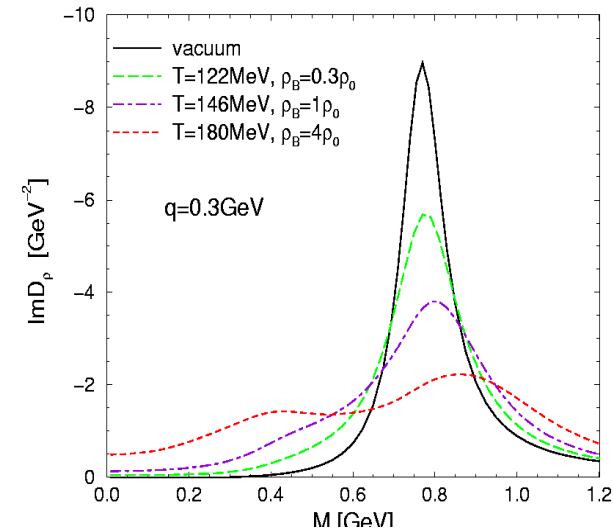
- Rapp-Wambach melting resonances

- collision broadening of spectral function
- only indirectly related to CSR

- medium modifications driven by baryon density

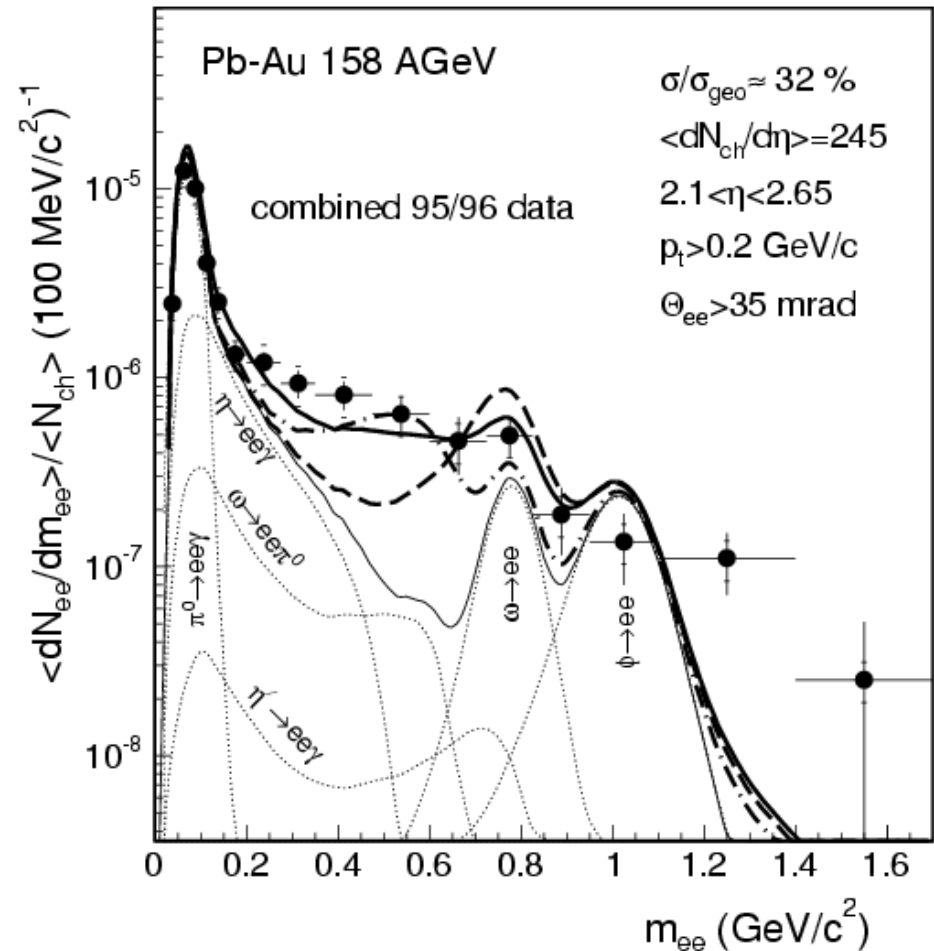
$$\frac{m_\rho^*}{m_\rho} \approx \left(\frac{\langle \bar{q}q \rangle_{\rho^*}}{\langle \bar{q}q \rangle_0} \right)^{1/3} = 1 - 0.16 \frac{\rho^*}{\rho_0}$$

- model space-time evolution of collision



Theory versus CERES-1 data

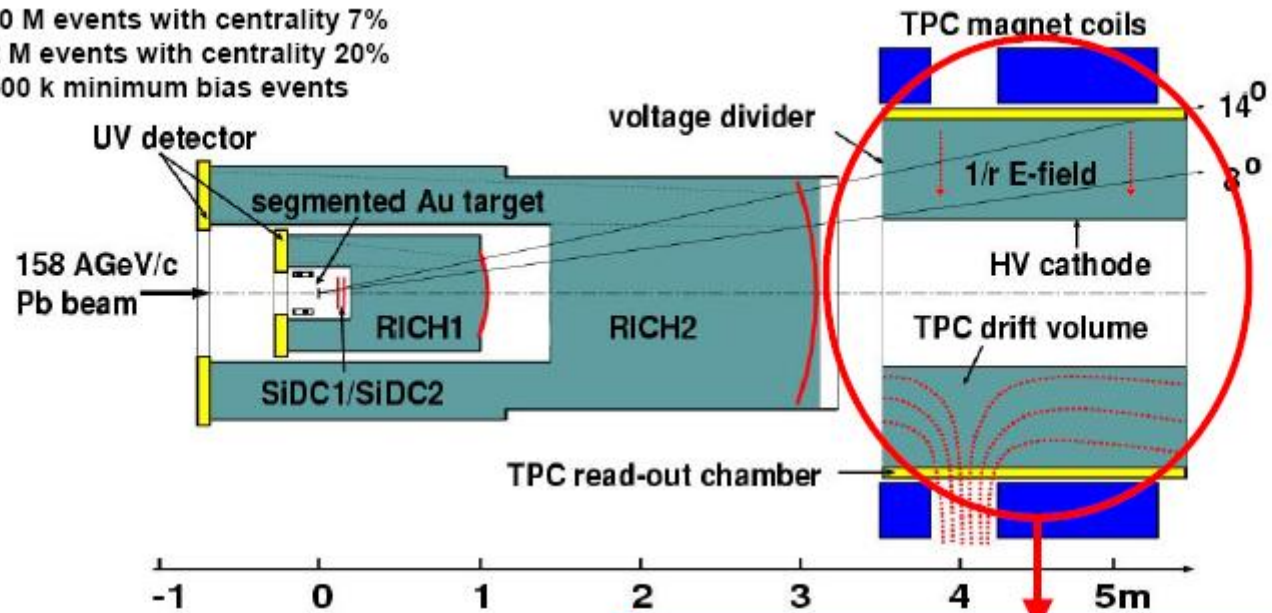
- attempt to attribute the observed excess to
 - vacuum ρ meson (- - - -)
 - inconsistent with data
 - overshoot in ρ region
 - undershoots @ low mass
 - modification ρ meson
 - needed to describe data
 - data do not distinguish between
 - broadening or melting of meson (Rapp-Wambach) ρ -
 - - - - dropping masses (Brown-Rho)
- indication for medium modifications, but data are not accurate enough to distinguish models



- largest discrimination between ρ/ω and ϕ
 \rightarrow need mass resolution!

CERES-1 → CERES-2

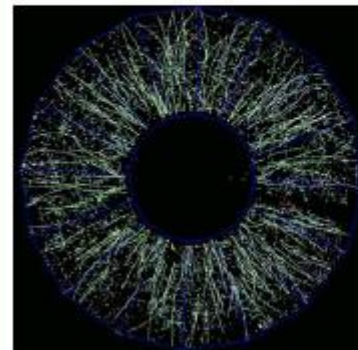
run 2000: 30 M events with centrality 7%
2 M events with centrality 20%
500 k minimum bias events



- addition of a TPC to CERES

- improved momentum resolution
- improved mass resolution
- $dE/dx \rightarrow$ hadron identification and improved electron ID
- inhomogeneous magnetic field \rightarrow a nightmare to calibrate

radial drift TPC: momentum and energy loss

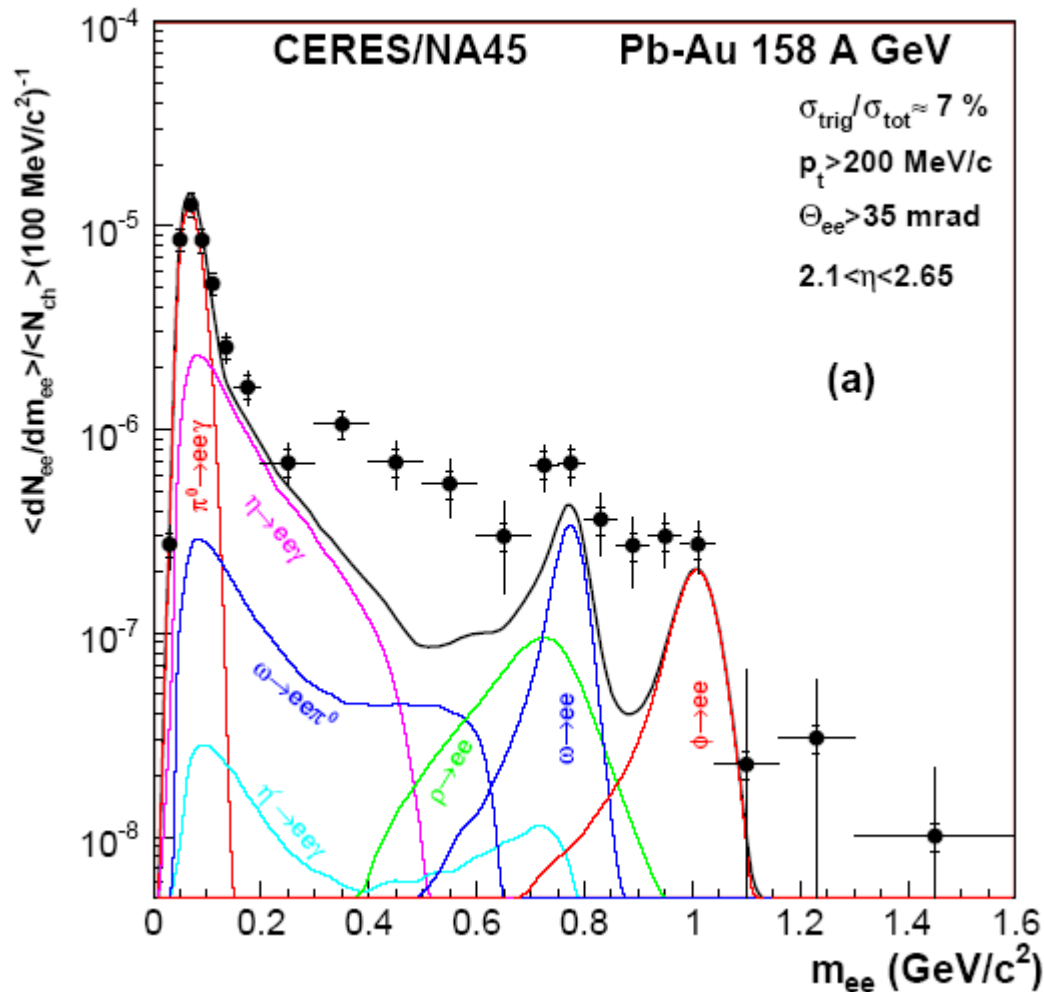


$$\Delta p/p = 2\% \oplus 1\% \cdot p/\text{GeV}$$

$$\Delta m/m = 3.8\% \text{ for } \phi$$

$$\Delta(dE/dx)/(dE/dx) = 10\%$$

CERES-2 result

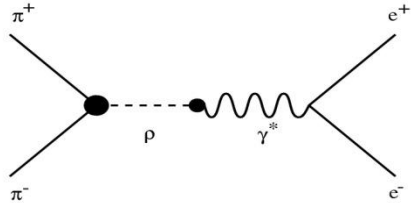


- the CERES-1 results persists
 - strong enhancement in the low-mass region
 - enhancement factor
 $(0.2 < m < 1.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2)$
 $\rightarrow 3.1 \pm 0.3 \text{ (stat.)}$
- but the improvement in mass resolution isn't outrageous

Dropping mass, broadening, or thermal radiation

- interpretations invoke

- $\pi^+\pi^- \rightarrow \rho \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow e^+e^-$



- thermal radiation from hadron gas
- vacuum ρ not enough to reproduce the data

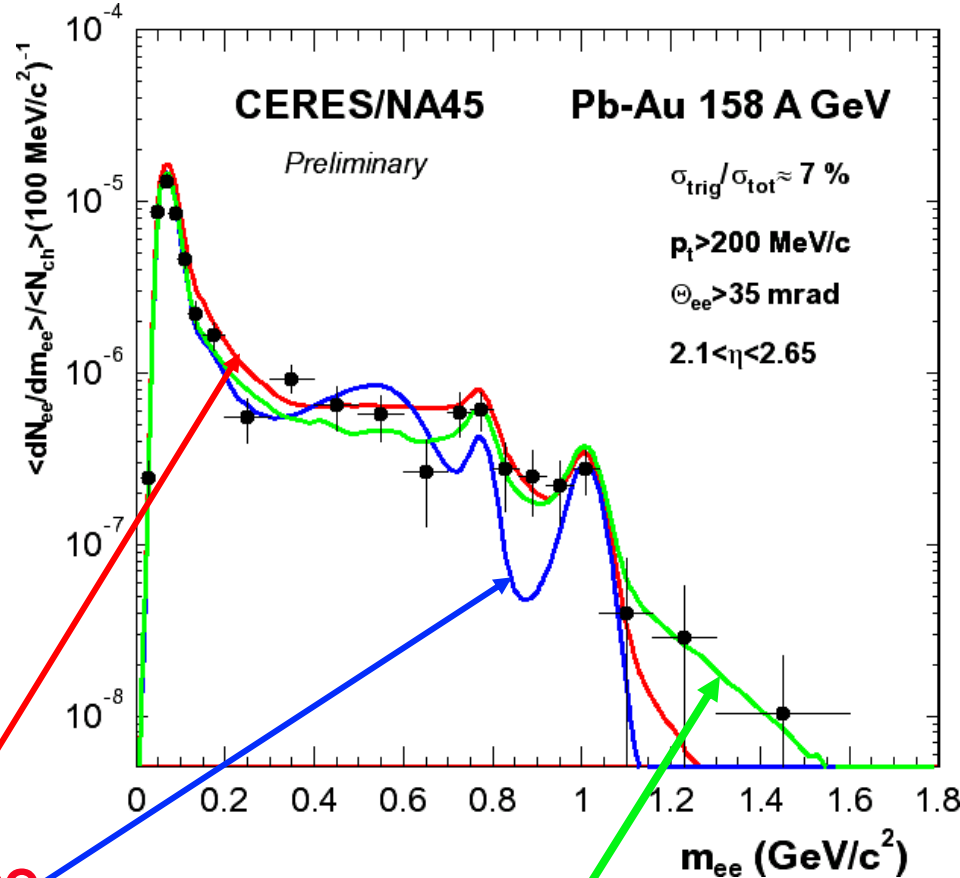
* in-medium modifications of ρ :

- ❖ broadening ρ spectral shape

(Rapp and Wambach)

- ❖ dropping ρ meson mass

(Brown et al)



- ❖ thermal radiation

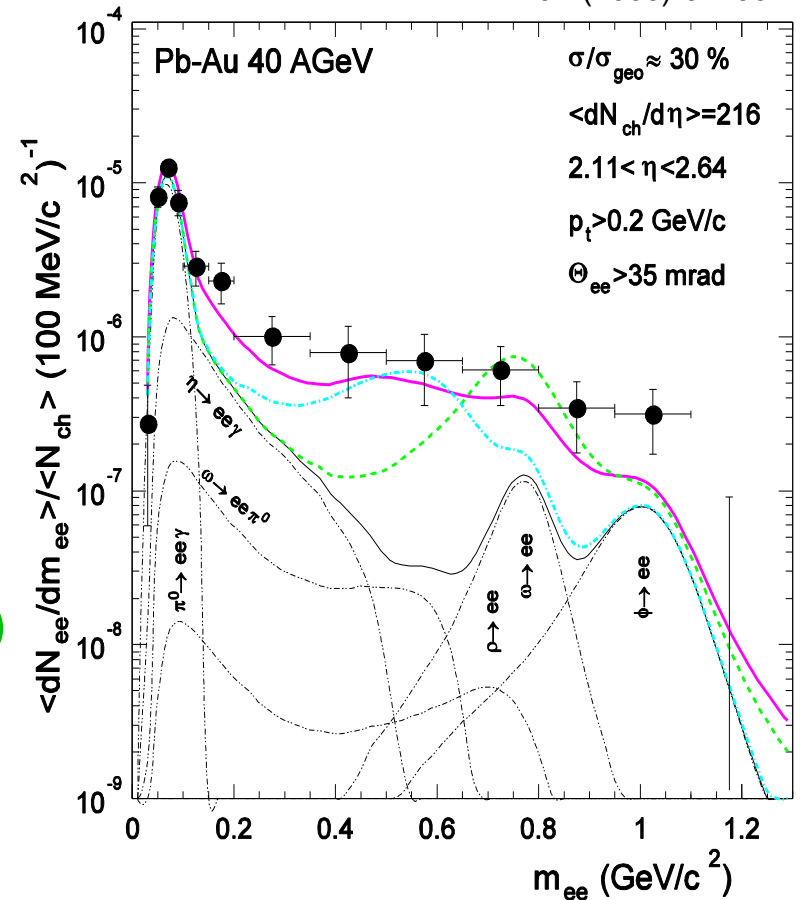
e^+e^- yield calculated from qq annihilation in pQCD
(B.Kämpfer et al)

CERES @ low energy (40 GeV/c)

PRL 91 (2003) 042301

- data taking in 1999 and 2000
 - improved mass resolution
 - improved background rejection
 - results remain statistics limited
- Pb-Au at 40 AGeV
 - enhancement for $m_{ee} > 0.2 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
 - $5.9 \pm 1.5(\text{stat}) \pm 1.2(\text{sys}) \pm 1.8(\text{decay})$

strong enhancement at lower \sqrt{s}
or larger baryon density



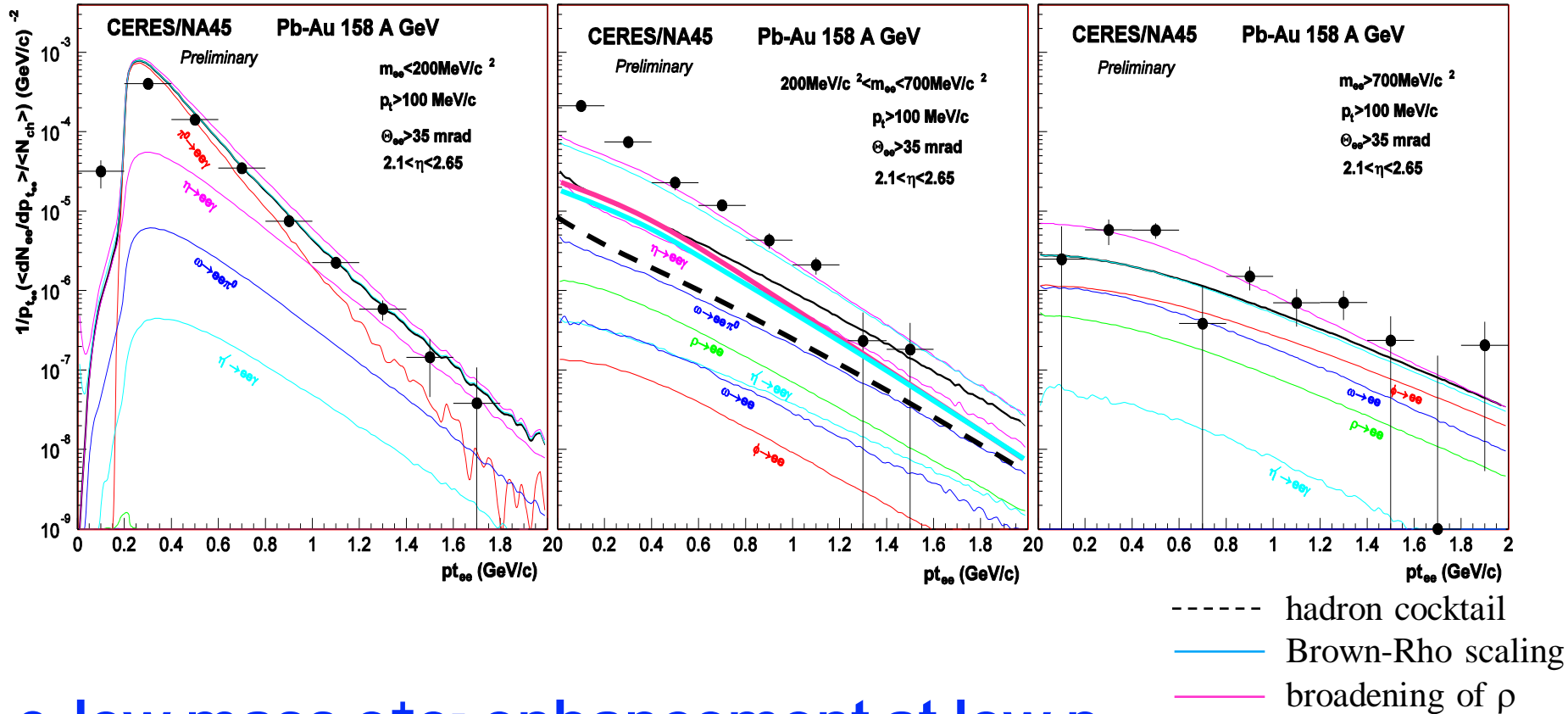
- vacuum ρ
- .-.- Brown-Rho scaling
- broadening of ρ

And what about p_T dependence?

$m_{ee} < 0.2 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

$0.2 < m_{ee} < 0.7 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

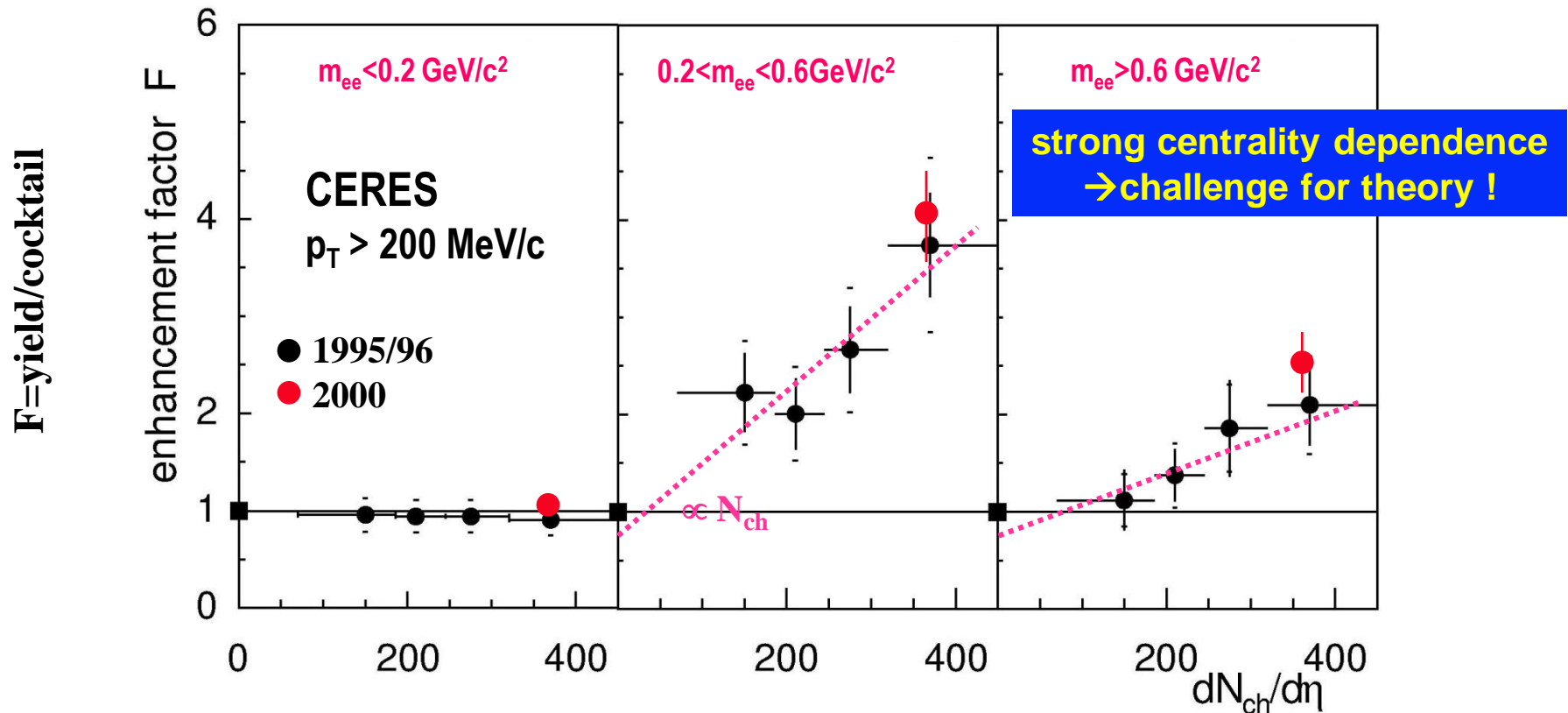
$m_{ee} > 0.7 \text{ GeV}/c^2$



● low mass e^+e^- enhancement at low p_T

- qualitatively in a agreement with $\pi\pi$ annihilation
- p_T distribution has little discriminative power

Centrality dependence of excess



- naïve expectation: quadratic multiplicity dependence
 - medium radiation \propto particle density squared
- more realistic: smaller than quadratic increase
 - density profile in transverse plane
 - life time of reaction volume

What did we get from CERES?

- first systematic study of e^+e^- production in elementary and HI collisions at SPS energies
 - pp and pA collisions are consistent with the expectation from known hadronic sources
 - a strong low-mass low- p_T enhancement is observed in HI collisions
- consistent with in-medium modification of the ρ meson
- data can't distinguish between two scenarios
 - dropping ρ mass as direct consequence of CSR
 - collisional broadening of ρ in dense medium
- WHAT IS NEEDED FOR PROGRESS?
 - STATISTICS
 - MASS RESOLUTION

How to overcome these limitations

- **more statistics**

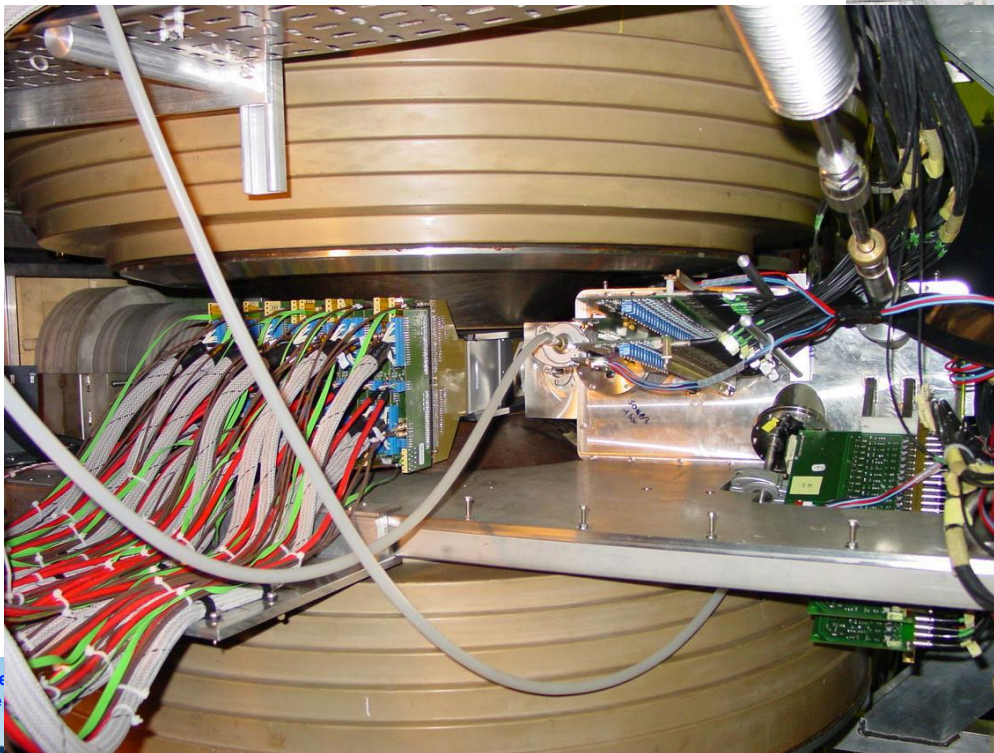
- **run forever → not an option**
- **higher interaction rate**
 - higher beam intensity
 - thicker target
- **needed to tolerate this**
 - extremely selective hardware trigger
 - reduced sensitivity to secondary interactions, e.g. in target
- **→ can't be done with dielectrons as a probe, but dimuons are just fine!**

- **better mass resolution**

- **stronger magnetic field**
- **detectors with better position resolution**
- **→ silicon tracker embedded in strong magnetic field!**

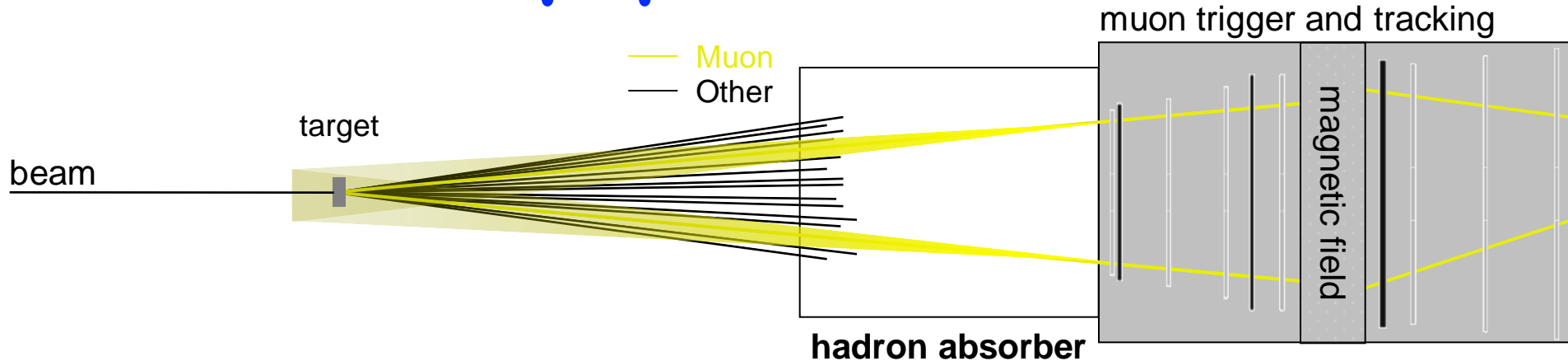
The NA60 experiment

- a huge hadron absorber and muon spectrometer (and trigger!)



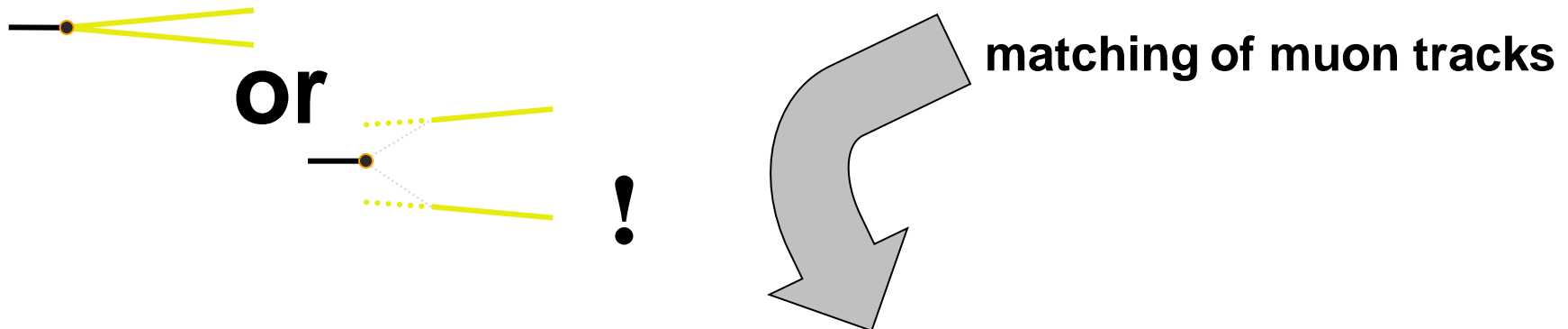
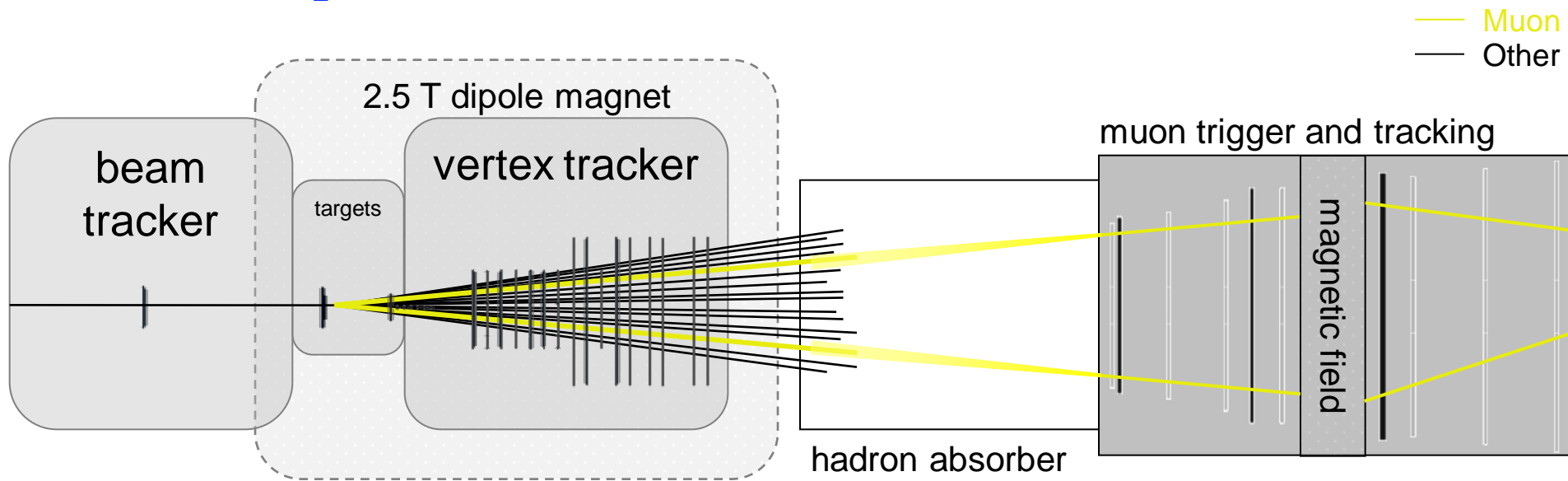
- and a tiny, high resolution, radiation hard vertex spectrometer

Standard $\mu^+\mu^-$ detection: NA50



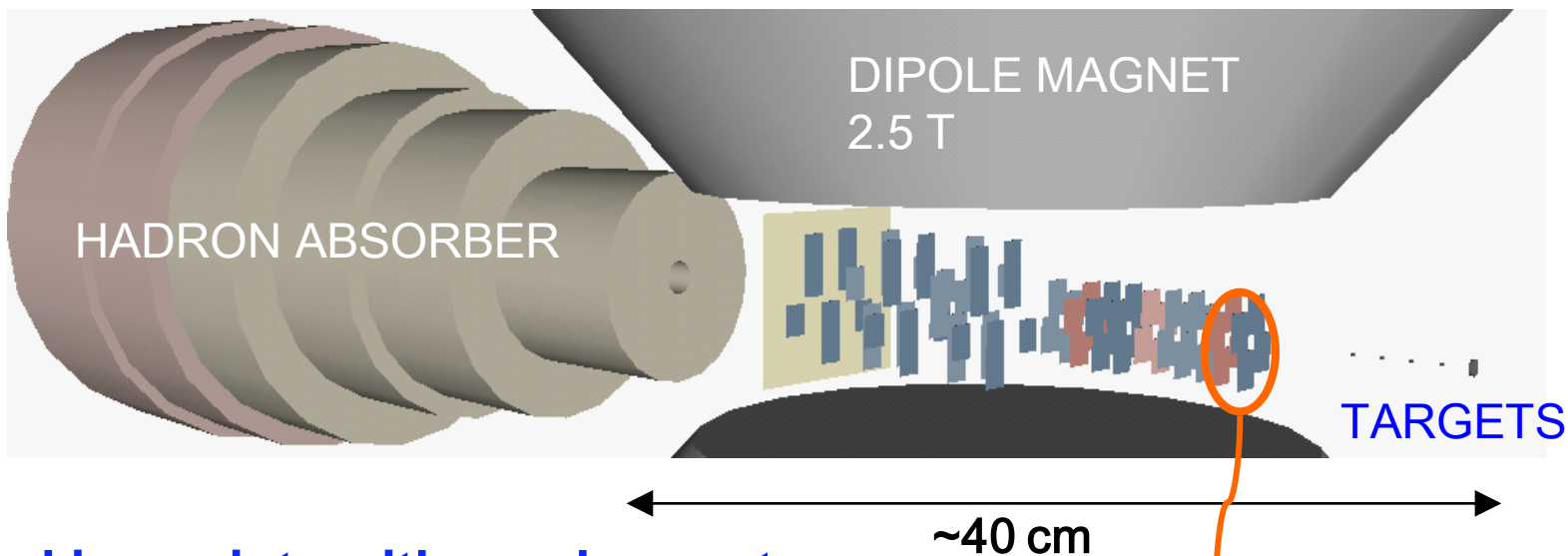
- thick hadron absorber to reject hadronic background
- trigger system based on fast detectors to select muon candidates (1 in 10^4 PbPb collisions at SPS energy)
- muon tracks reconstructed by a spectrometer (tracking detectors+magnetic field)
- extrapolate muon tracks back to the target taking into account multiple scattering and energy loss, but ...
 - poor reconstruction of interaction vertex ($\sigma_z \sim 10$ cm)
 - poor mass resolution (80 MeV at the ϕ)

A step forward: the NA60 case

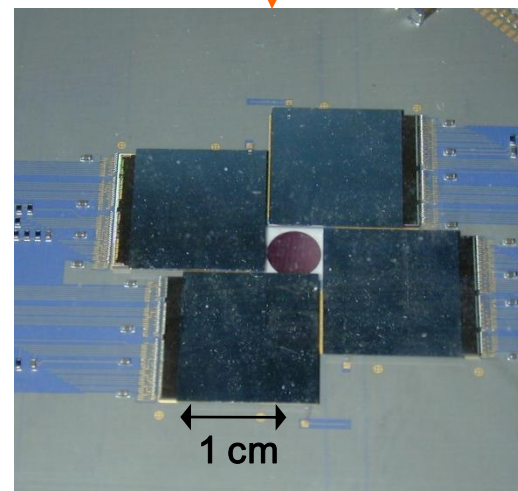


- origin of muons can be determined accurately
- improved dimuon mass resolution

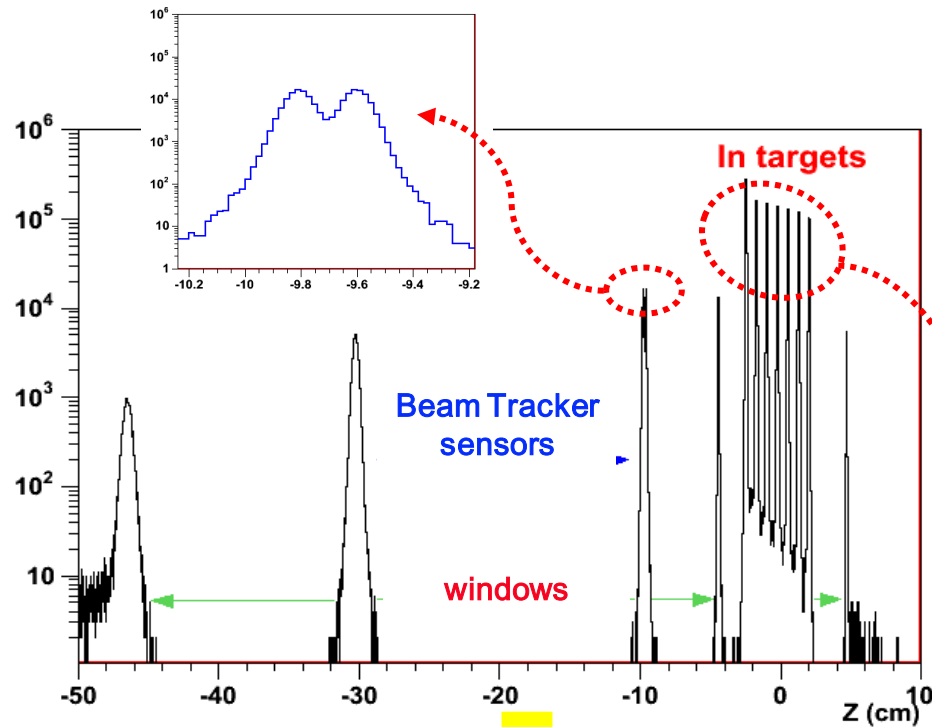
The NA60 pixel vertex spectrometer



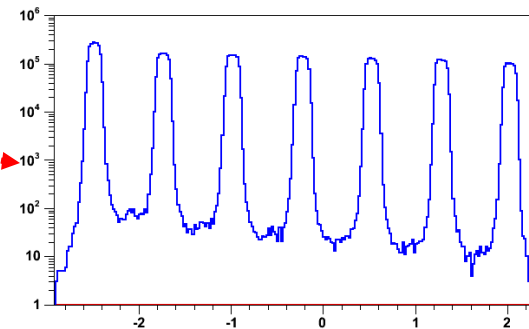
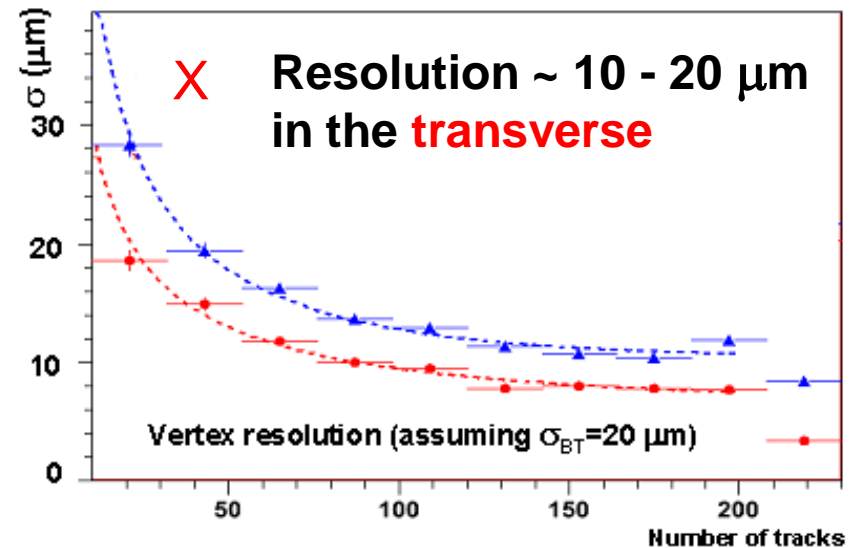
- 12 tracking points with good acceptance
 - 8 small 4-chip planes
 - 8 large 8-chip planes in 4 tracking stations
- ~3% X_0 per plane
 - 750 μm Si readout chip
 - 300 μm Si sensor
 - ceramic hybrid
- 800000 readout channels in 96 pixel assemblies



Vertexing in NA60



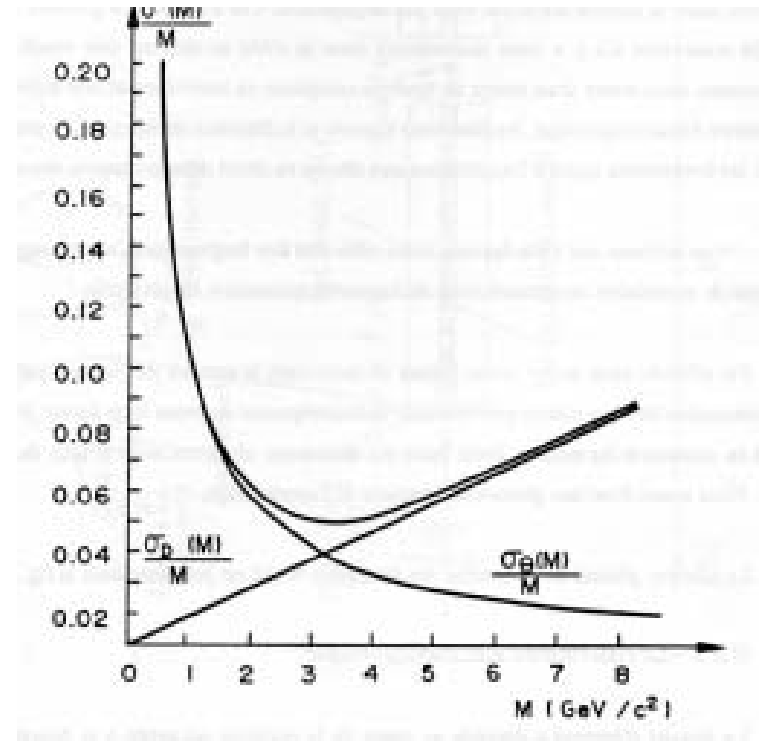
$\sigma_z \sim 200 \mu\text{m}$ along the **beam** direction
 Good vertex identification with ≥ 4 tracks



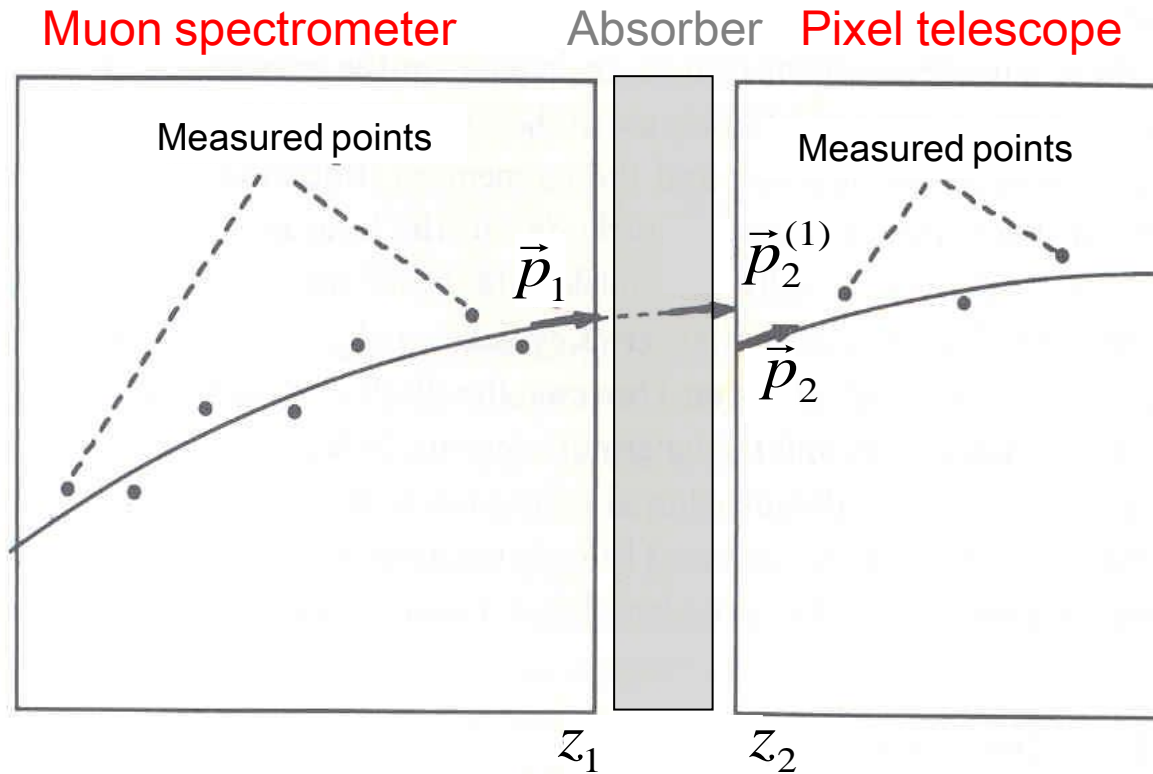
Extremely clean target identification (Log scale!)

Contributions to mass resolution

- two components
 - multiple scattering in the hadron absorber
 - dominant at low momentum
 - tracking accuracy
 - dominant at high momentum
- high mass dimuons ($\sim 3 \text{ GeV}/c^2$)
 - absorber doesn't matter
- low mass dimuons ($\sim 1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$)
 - absorber is crucial
 - momentum measurement before the absorber promises huge improvement in mass resolution
- → track matching is critical for high resolution low mass dimuon measurements!



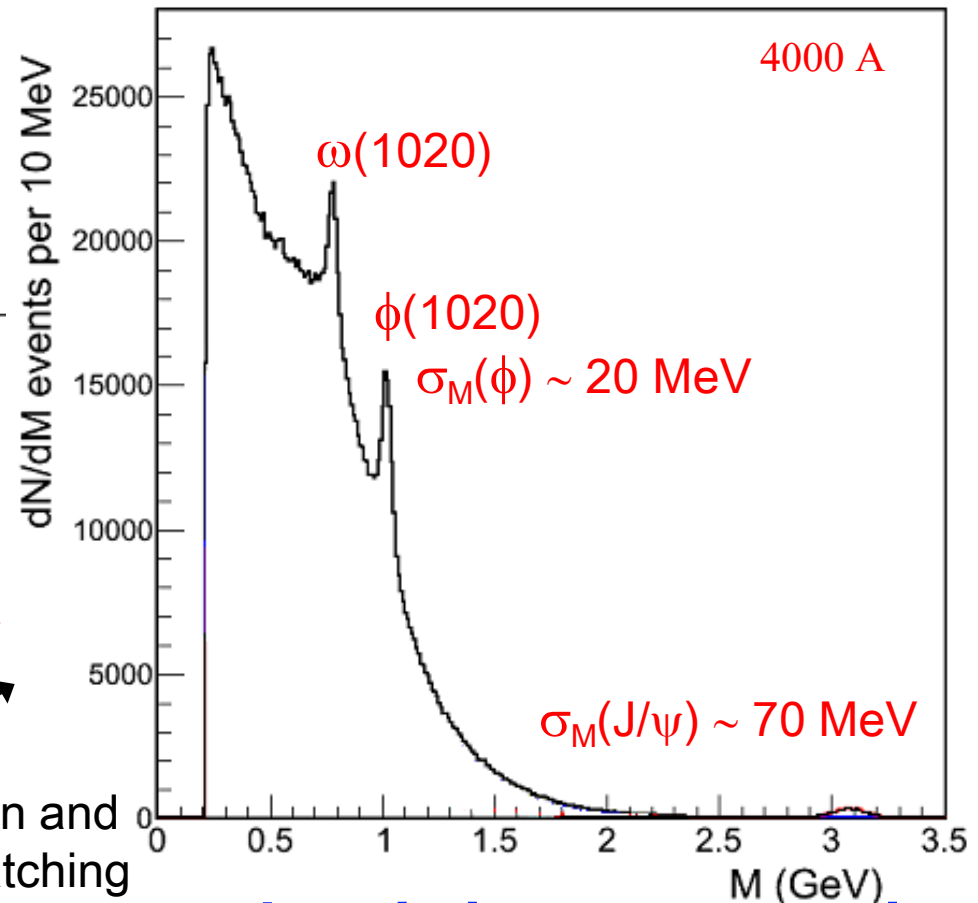
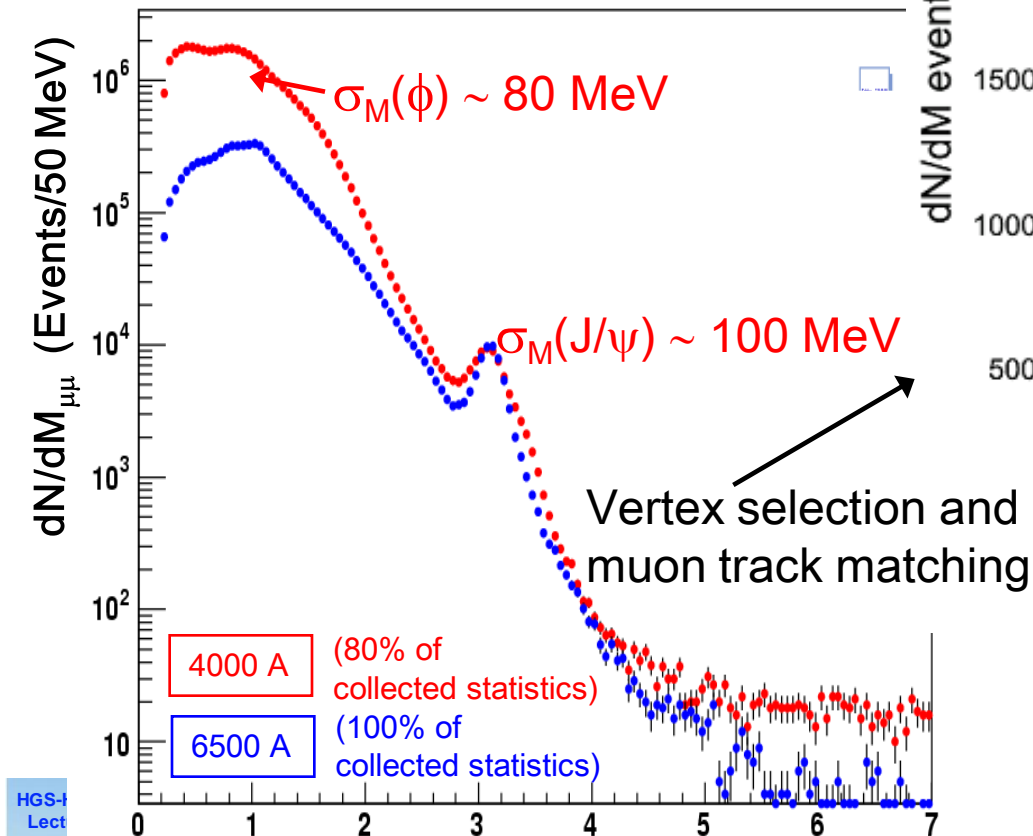
Muon track matching



- track matching has to be done in
 - position space
 - momentum space
- to be most effective
- → the pixel telescope has to be a spectrometer!

Improvement in mass resolution

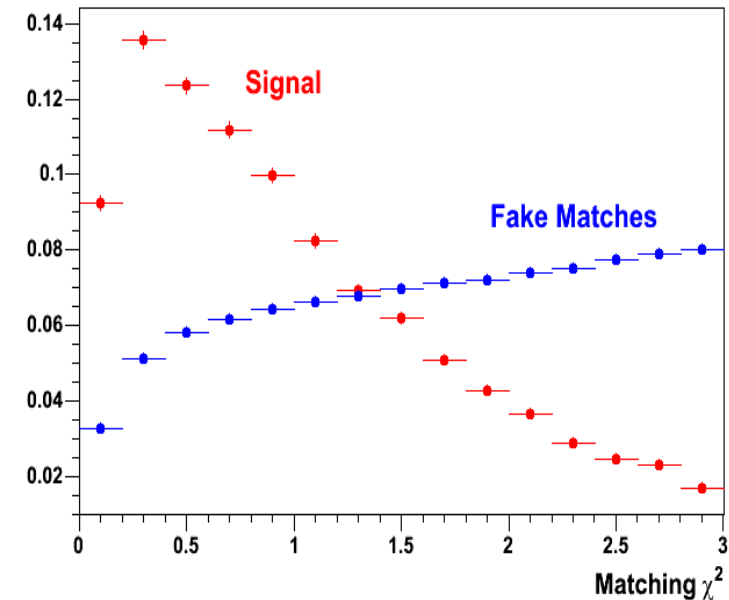
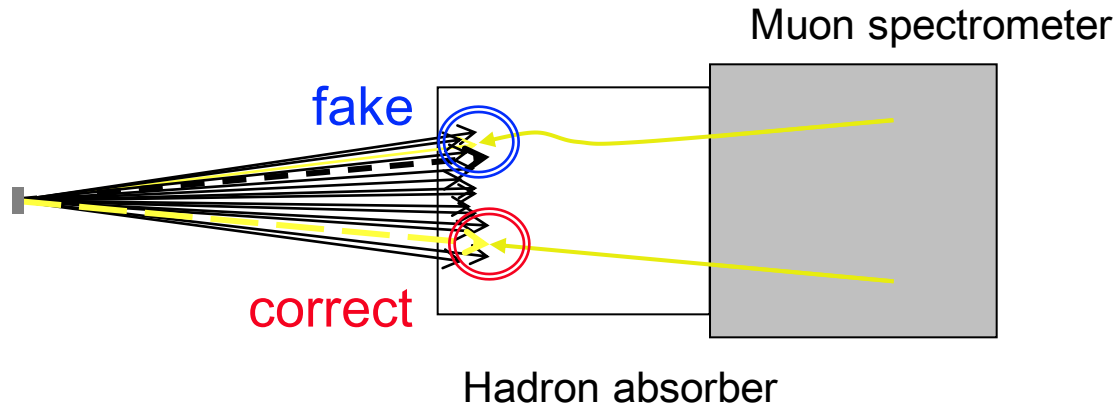
- unlike sign dimuon mass distribution before quality cuts and without muon track matching



- drastic improvement in mass resolution
- still a large unphysical background

Nothing is perfect: fake matches

- fake match: μ matched to wrong track in pixel telescope
 - important in high multiplicity events

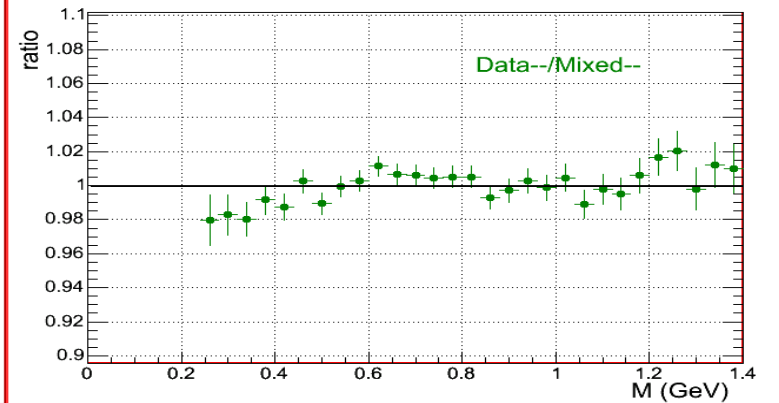
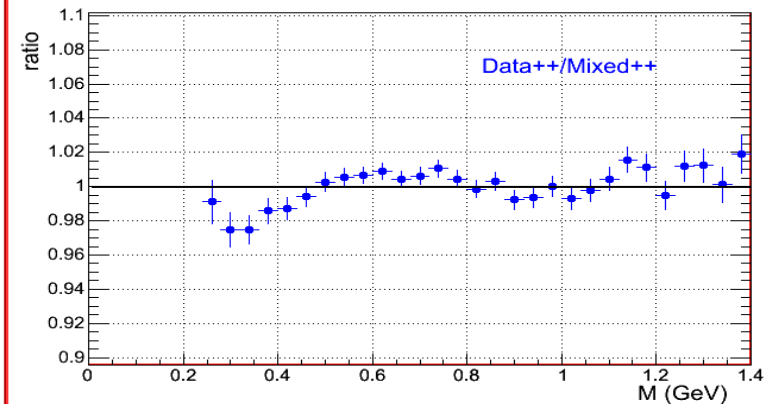
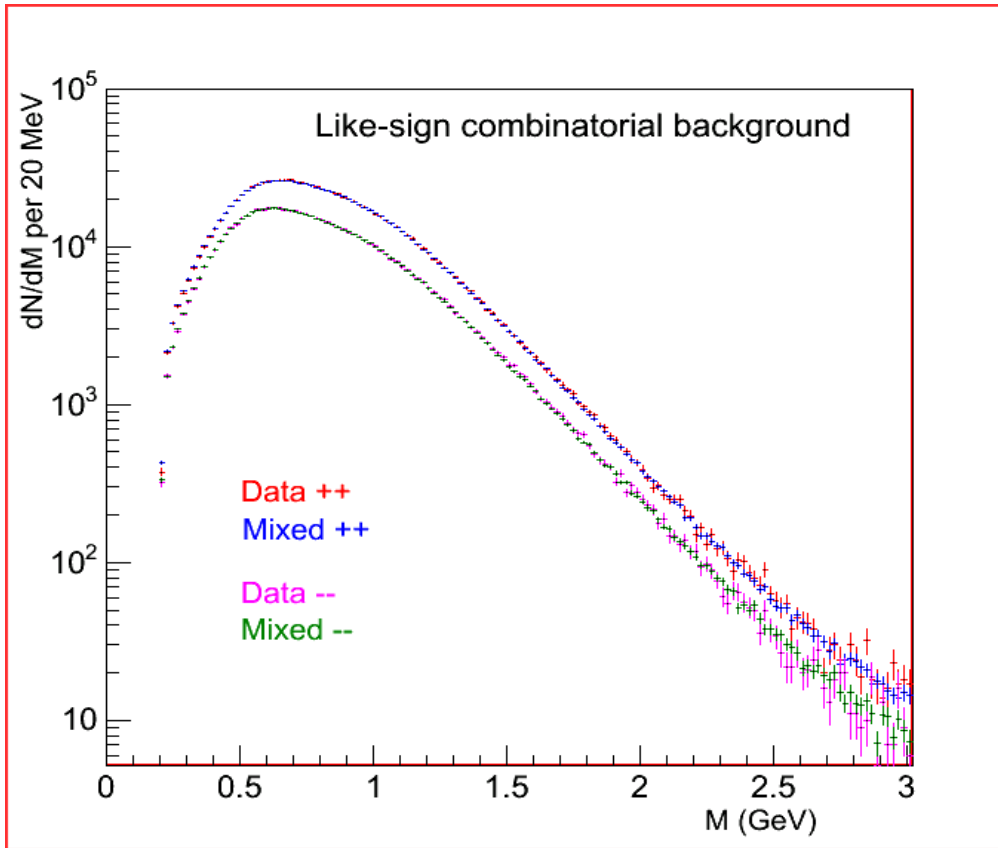


how to deal with fake matches

- keep track with best χ^2 (but is it right?)
- embedding of muon tracks into other event
- identify fake matches and determine the fraction of these relative to correct matches as function of
 - centrality
 - transverse momentum

Event mixing: like-sign pairs

- compare measured and mixed like-sign pairs

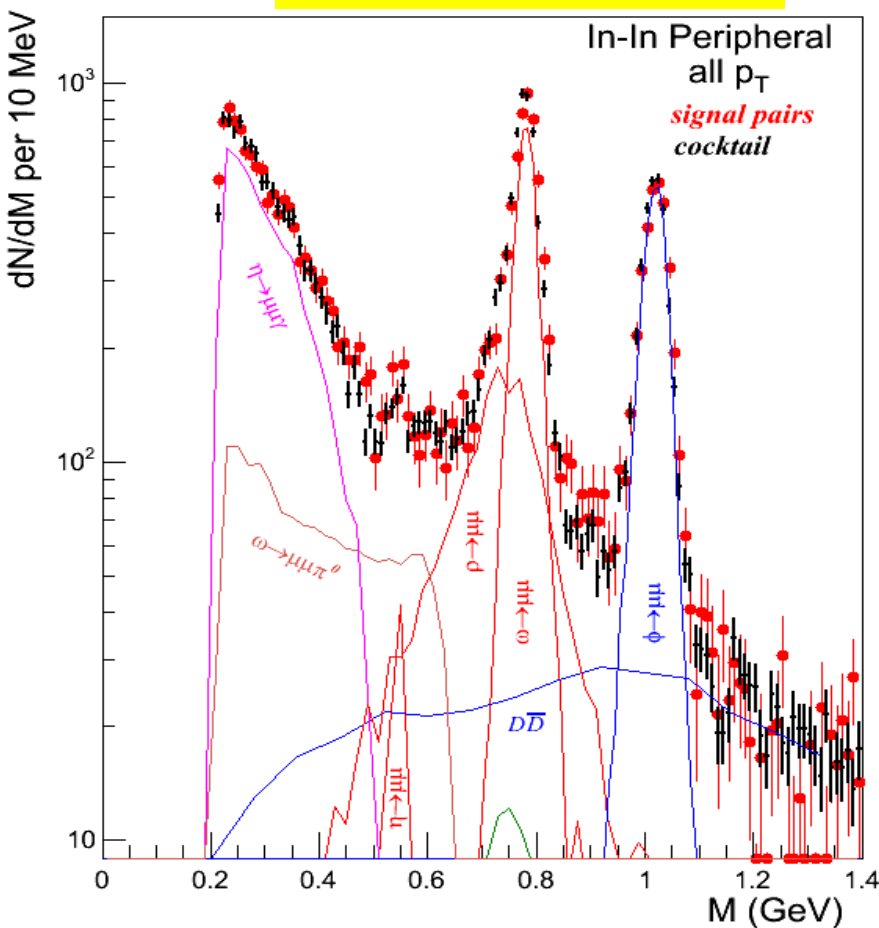


- accuracy in NA60: $\sim 1\%$ over the full mass range

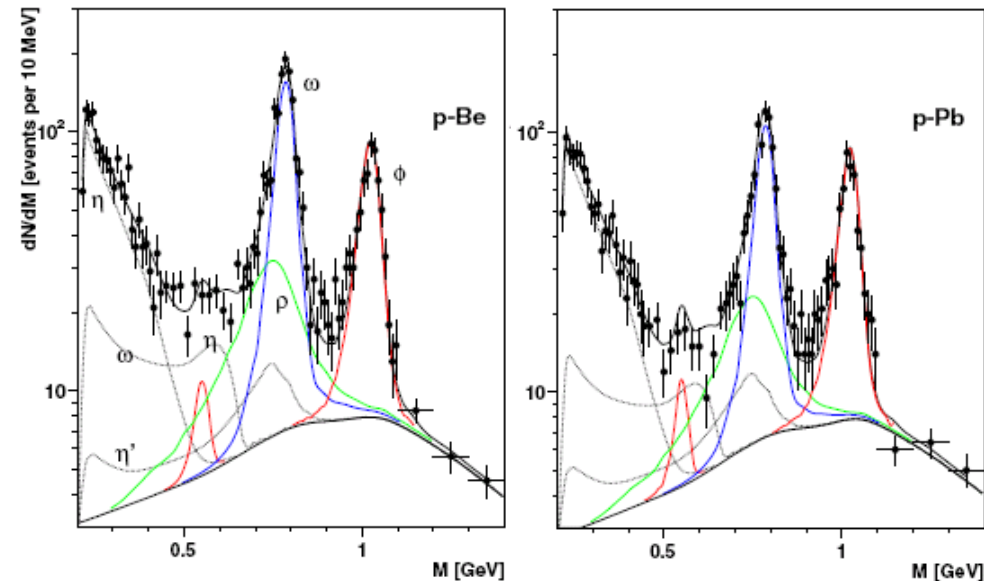
LMR data: peripheral ($N_{ch} < 30$) In-In collisions

Well described by meson decay 'cocktail': η , η' , ρ , ω , f and DD contributions (Genesis generator developed within CERES and adapted for dimuons by NA60).

Eur.Phys.J.C 49 (2007) 235



Eur.Phys.J.C 43 (2005) 407



Similar cocktail describes NA60 p-Be, In, Pb 400 GeV data

EM transition form-factors for $\omega \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \pi^0$ and $\eta \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \gamma$ peripheral NA60 InIn data

Acceptance-corrected data (after subtraction of η, ω and ϕ peaks)
fitted by three contributions:

$$\frac{d\Gamma(\eta \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \gamma)}{dm_{\mu\mu}^2} = \frac{2\alpha}{3\pi} \frac{\Gamma(\eta \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)}{m_{\mu\mu}^2} \left(1 - \frac{m_{\mu\mu}^2}{m_\eta^2}\right)^3 \left(1 + \frac{2m_\mu^2}{m_{\mu\mu}^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{4m_\mu^2}{m_{\mu\mu}^2}\right)^{1/2} \times |F_\eta(m_{\mu\mu}^2)|^2$$

$$\frac{d\Gamma(\omega \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \pi^0)}{dm_{\mu\mu}^2} = \frac{\alpha}{3\pi} \frac{\Gamma(\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma)}{m_{\mu\mu}^2} \left(1 + \frac{2m_\mu^2}{m_{\mu\mu}^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{4m_\mu^2}{m_{\mu\mu}^2}\right)^{1/2} \left[\left(1 + \frac{m_{\mu\mu}^2}{m_\omega^2 - m_{\pi^0}^2}\right)^2 - \frac{4m_\omega^2 m_{\mu\mu}^2}{m_\omega^2 - m_{\pi^0}^2} \right]^{3/2} \times |F_\omega(m_{\mu\mu}^2)|^2$$

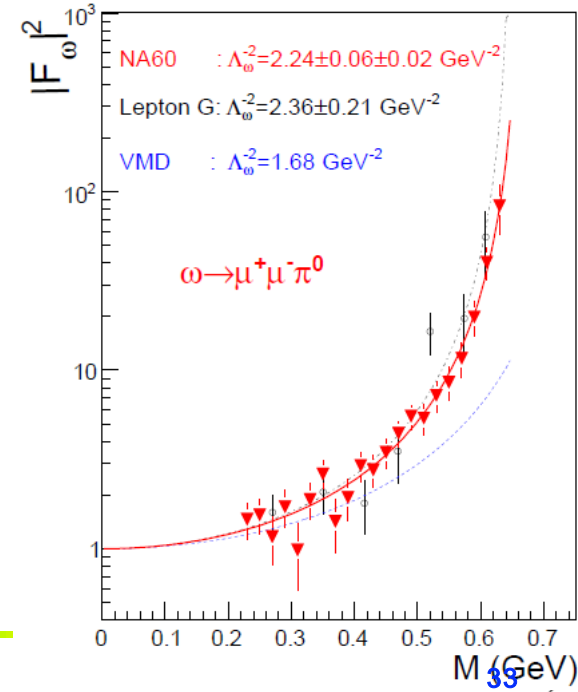
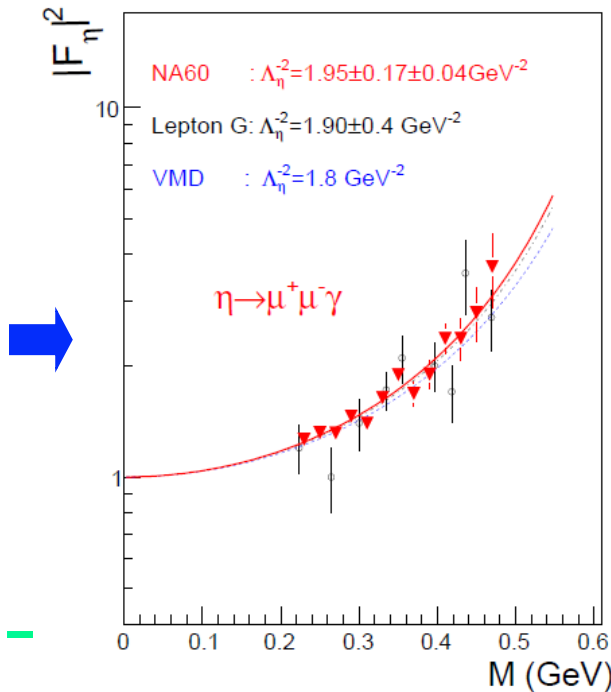
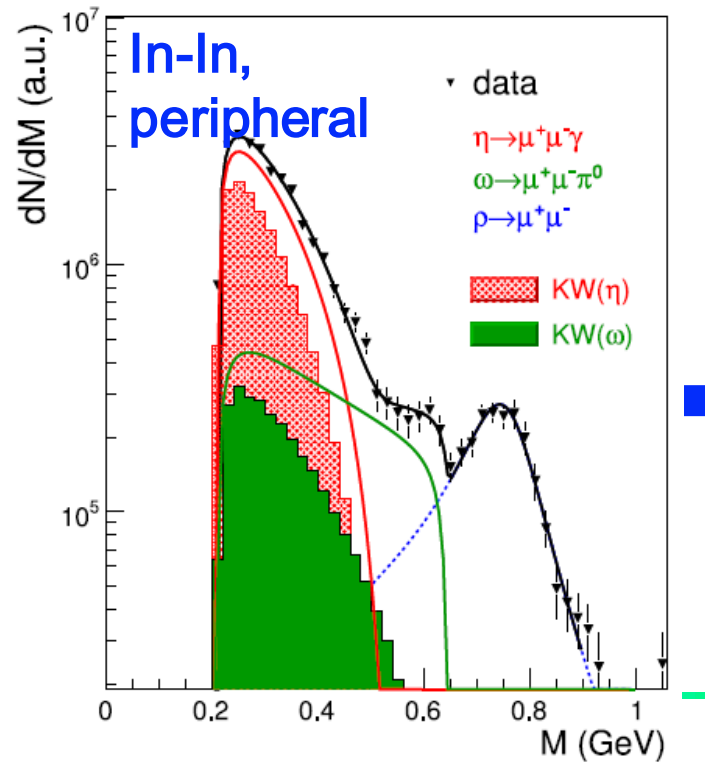
$$\frac{dR(\rho \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)}{dM} = \frac{\alpha^2 m_\rho^4}{3(2\pi)^4} \frac{\left(1 - \frac{4m_\pi^2}{M^2}\right)^{3/2} \left(1 - \frac{4m_\mu^2}{M^2}\right)^{1/2} \left(1 + \frac{2m_\mu^2}{M^2}\right)}{(M^2 - m_\rho^2)^2 + M^2 \Gamma^2} (2\pi M T)^{3/2} e^{-\frac{M}{T}}$$

hep-ph/0902.2547, submitted to PLB

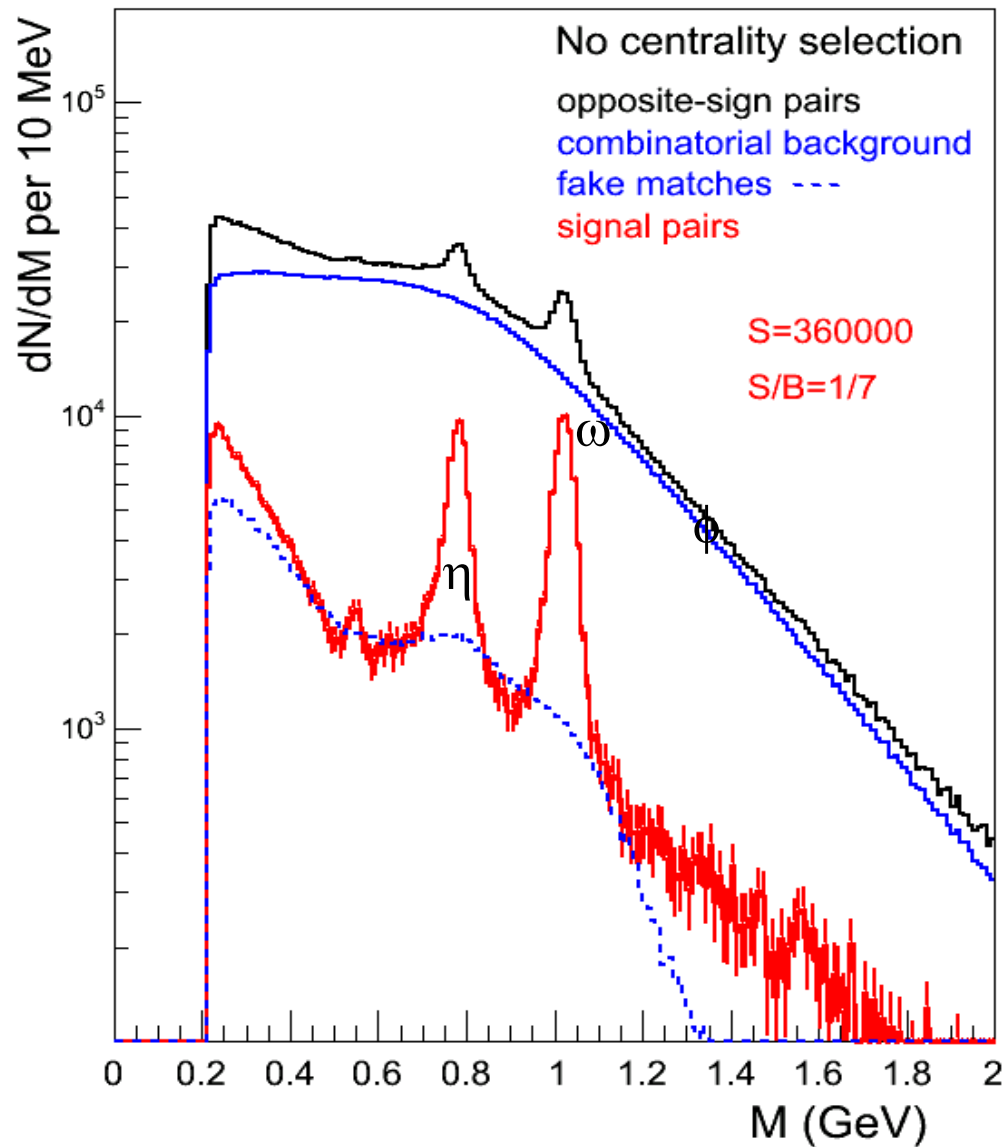
pole approximation:

$$|F(m_{\mu\mu}^2)|^2 = \left(1 - m_{\mu\mu}^2 / \Lambda^2\right)^{-2}$$

- Confirmed anomaly of F_ω wrt the VMD prediction.
- Improved errors wrt the Lepton-G results.
- Removes FF ambiguity in the 'cocktail'



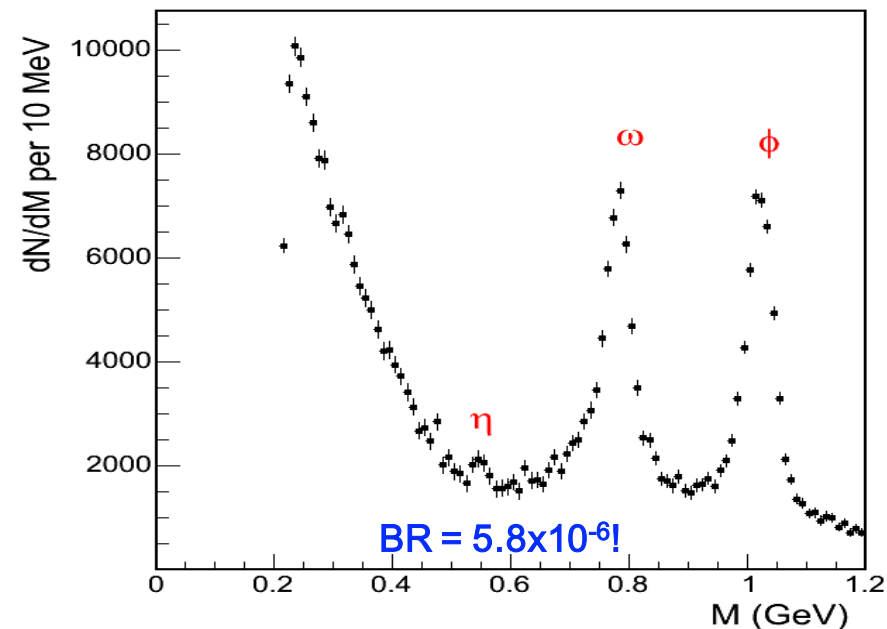
LMR data: Min.Bias In-In collisions



Low Mass Region

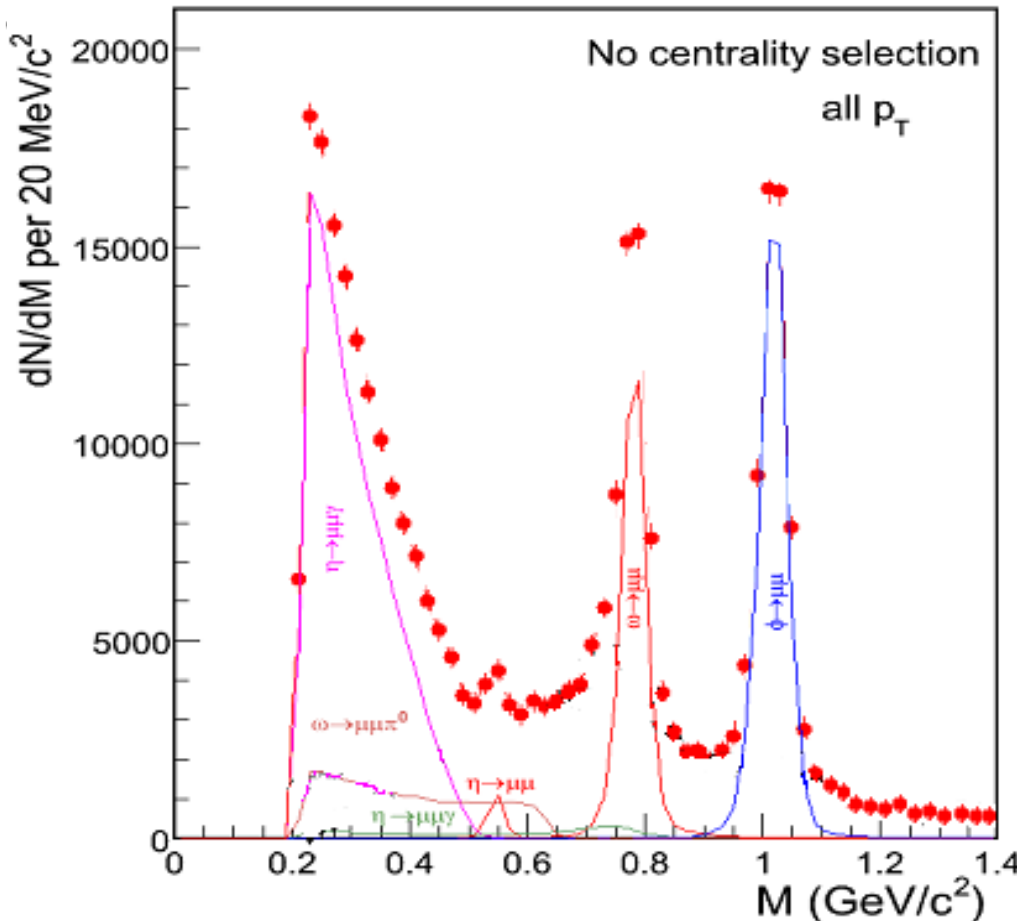
Improvement

- Statistics
- Resolution



Cocktail subtraction (without ρ)

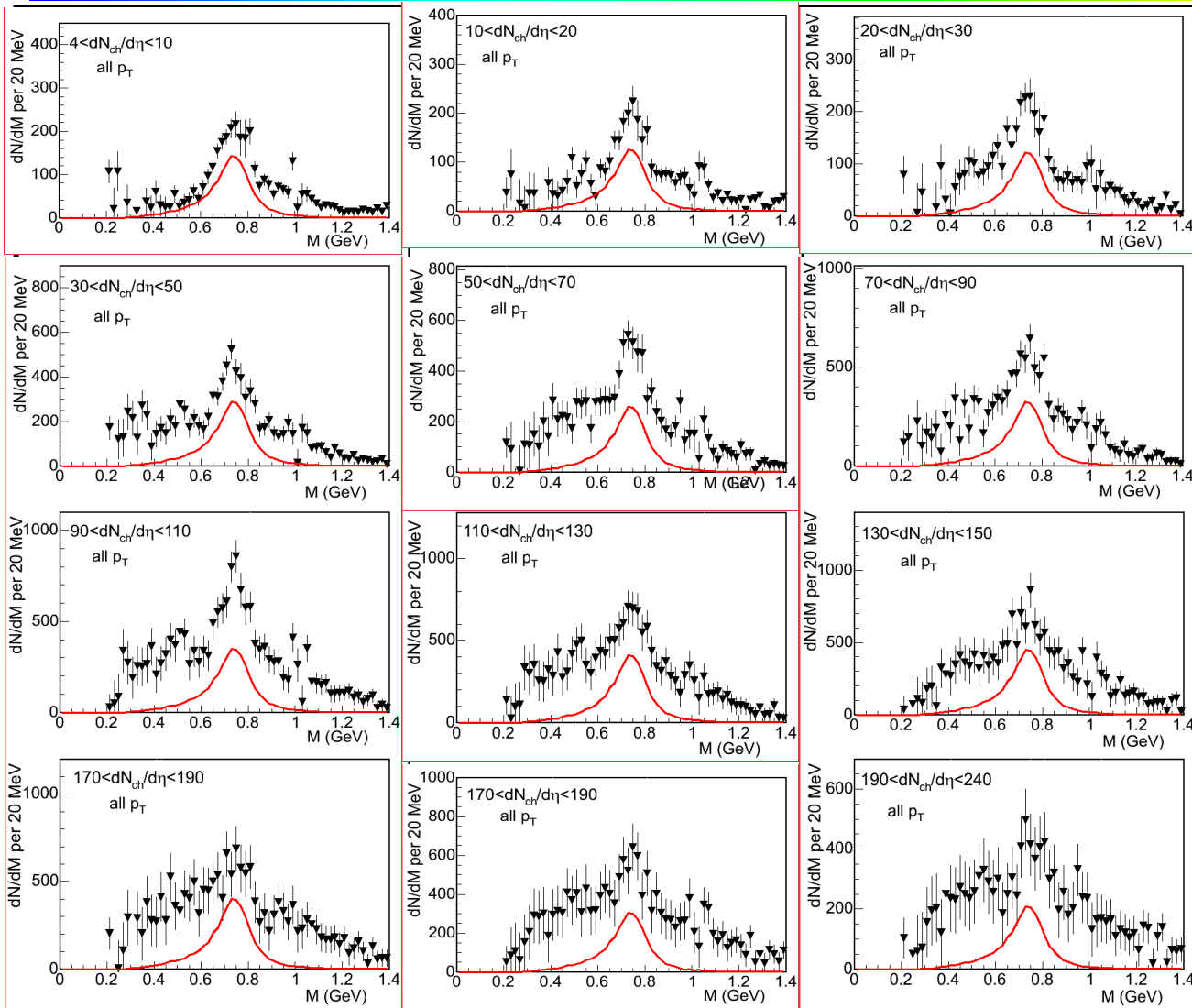
- how to nail down an unknown source?
- → try to find excess above cocktail without fit constraints



- ω and ϕ : fix yields such as to get, after subtraction, a **smooth** underlying continuum

- η :
(▼) set upper limit, defined by “**saturating**” the measured yield in the mass region close to 0.2 GeV (**lower limit for excess**).
(△) use yield measured for $p_T > 1.4$ GeV/c

Excess versus centrality

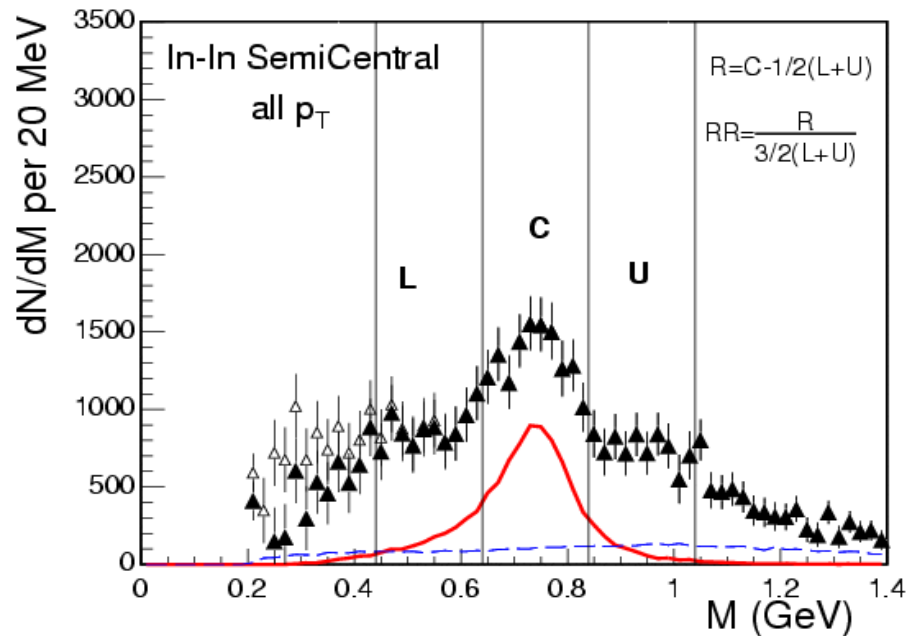


data – cocktail
(all p_T)

- No **cocktail** ρ and no **DD** subtracted
- **Clear excess** above the cocktail ρ , **centered at the nominal ρ pole** and rising with centrality
- Excess even more pronounced at low p_T

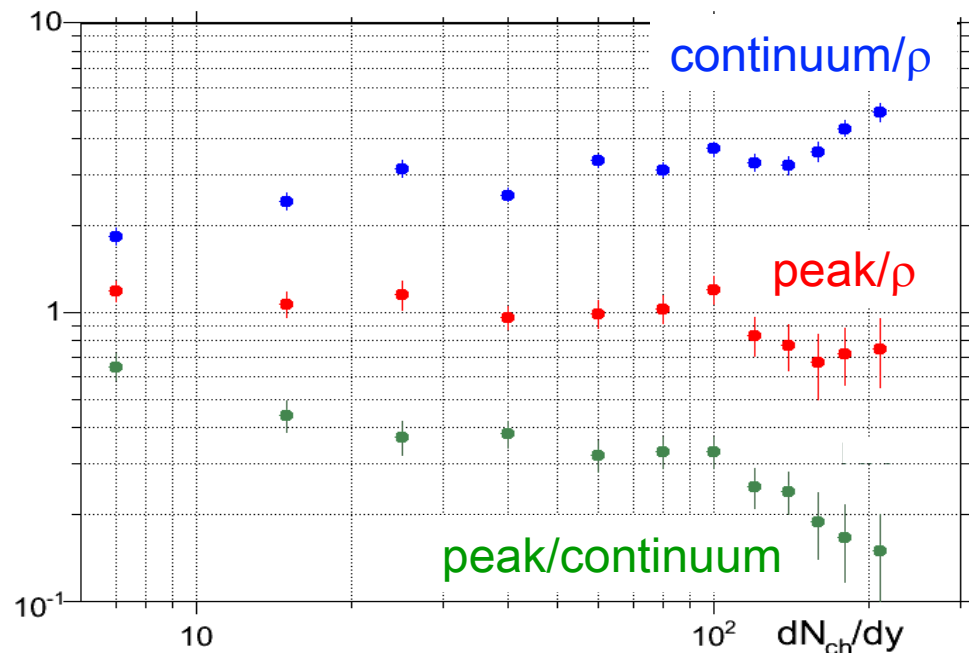
Excess shape versus centrality

Quantify the peak and the broad symmetric continuum with a mass interval C around the peak ($0.64 < M < 0.84$ GeV) and two equal side bins L, U



$$\begin{aligned} \text{continuum} &= 3/2(L+U) \\ \text{peak} &= C - 1/2(L+U) \end{aligned}$$

Fine analysis in 12 centrality bins



Peak/cocktail ρ drops by a factor ~ 2 from peripheral to central:

the peak seen is not the cocktail ρ

nontrivial changes of all three variables at $dN_{ch}/dy > 100$?

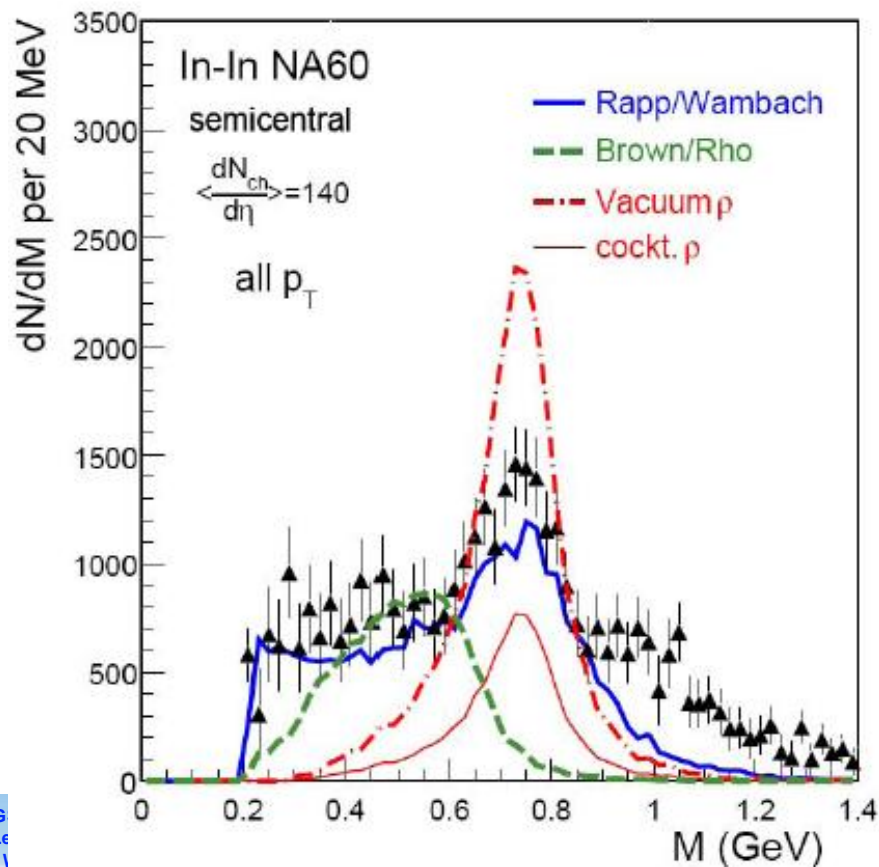
Comparison with prominent models

- Rapp & Wambach

- hadronic model with strong broadening but no mass shift

- Brown & Rho

- dropping mass due to dropping chiral condensate

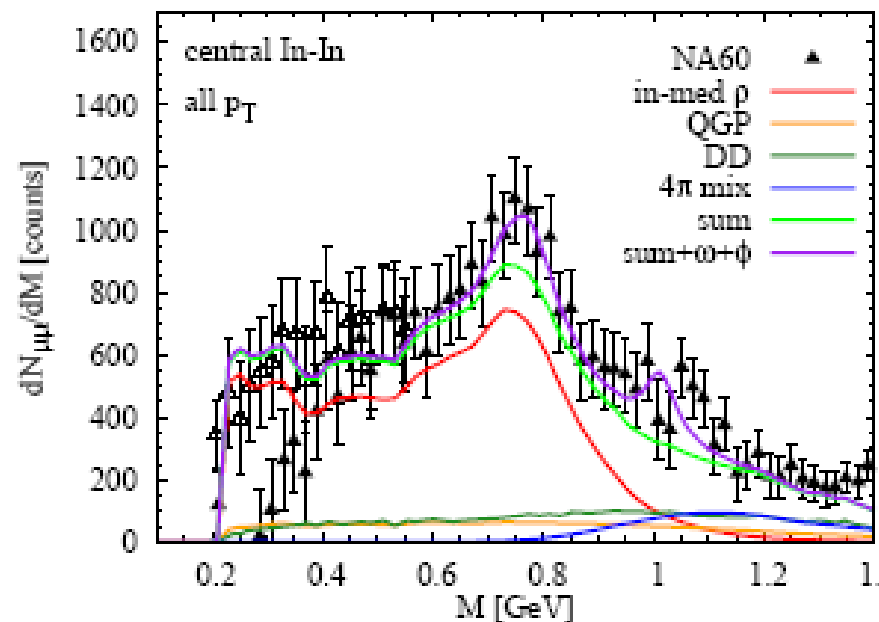
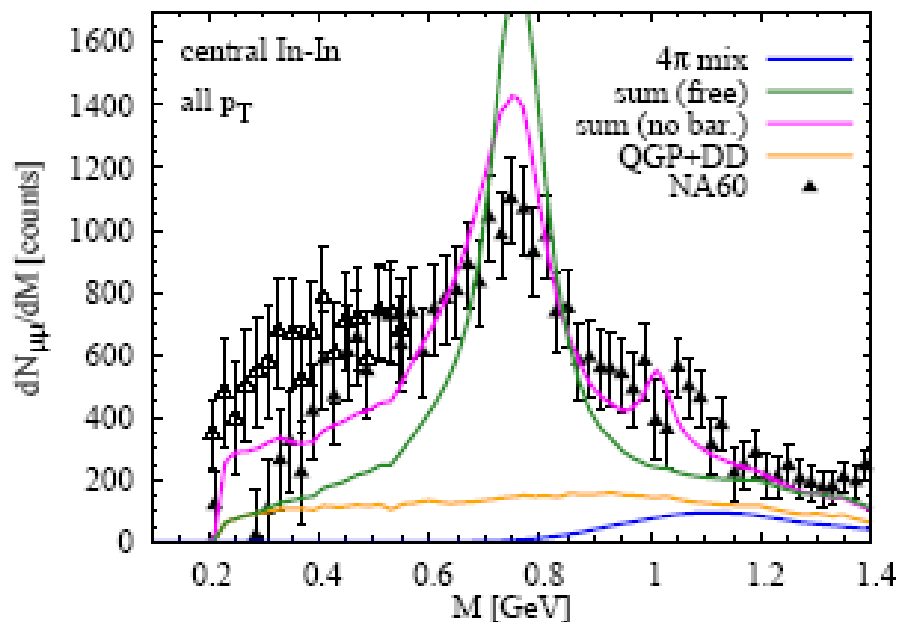


- calculations for all scenarios in In-In for $dN_{ch}/d\eta = 140$ (Rapp et al.)
- spectral functions after acceptance filtering, averaged over space-time and momenta
- Keeping original normalization

data consistent with
broadening of ρ (RW),
mass shift (BR) not needed

Role of baryons

- improved model calculation (Rapp & van Hees)
 - fireball dynamics
 - 4π processes
 - absolute normalization!
 - towards high p_T the vacuum ρ becomes more important (Rapp/van Hees; Renk/Ruppert)

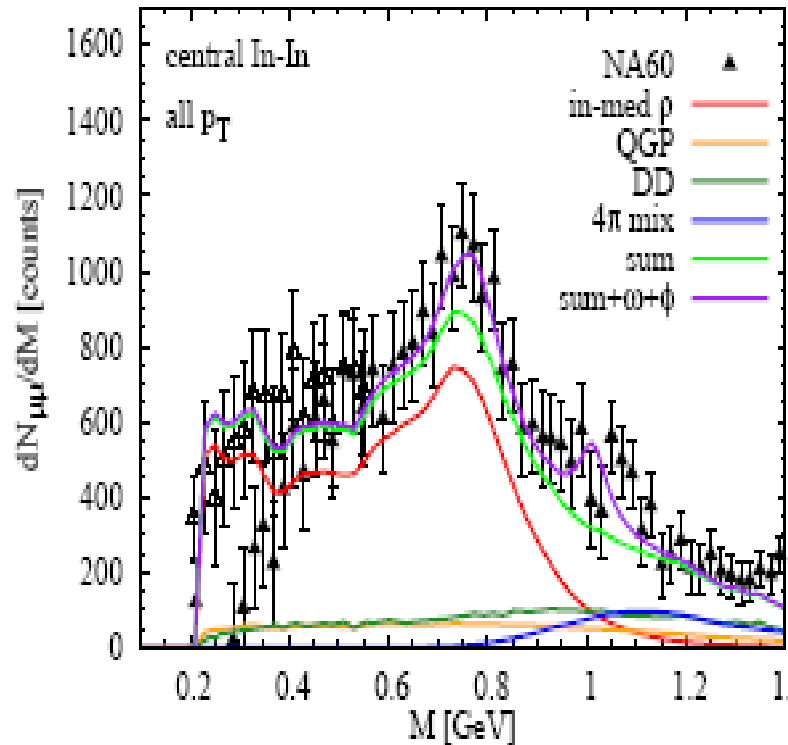


- without baryons
 - not enough broadening
 - lack of strength below the ρ peak

The high mass region ($M > 1 \text{ GeV}$)

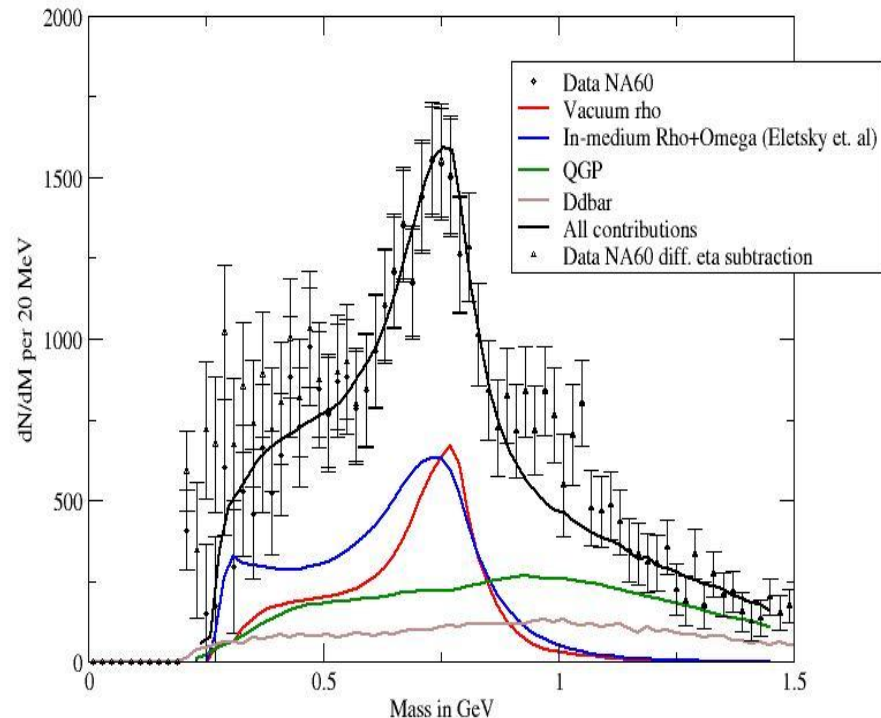
- hadron-parton duality

Rapp / van Hees



- dominant at high M
 - hadronic processes
 - 4π ...

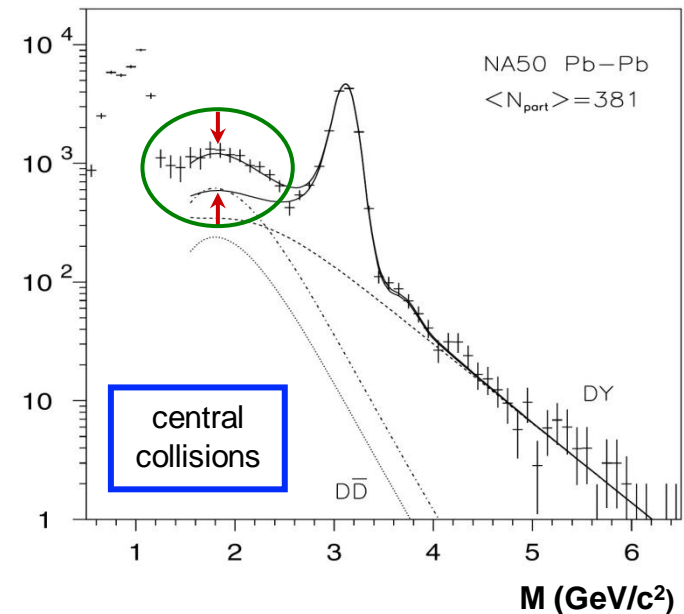
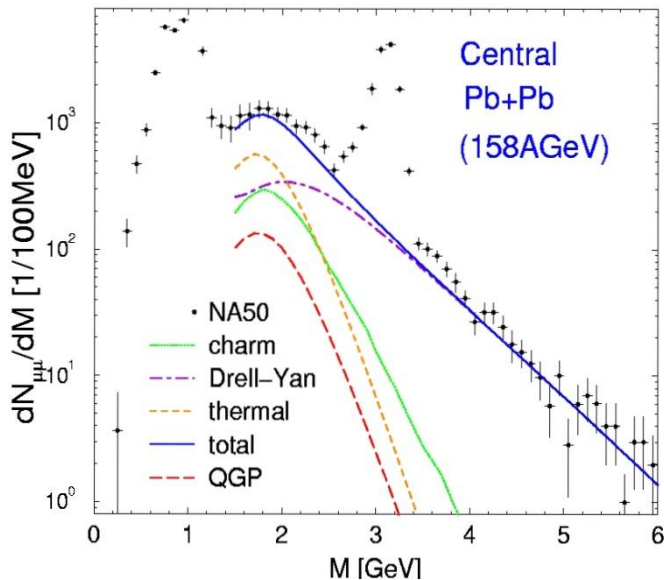
Ruppert / Renk



- dominant at high M
 - partonic processes
 - mainly $q\bar{q}$ annihilation

Intermediate mass region (IMR)

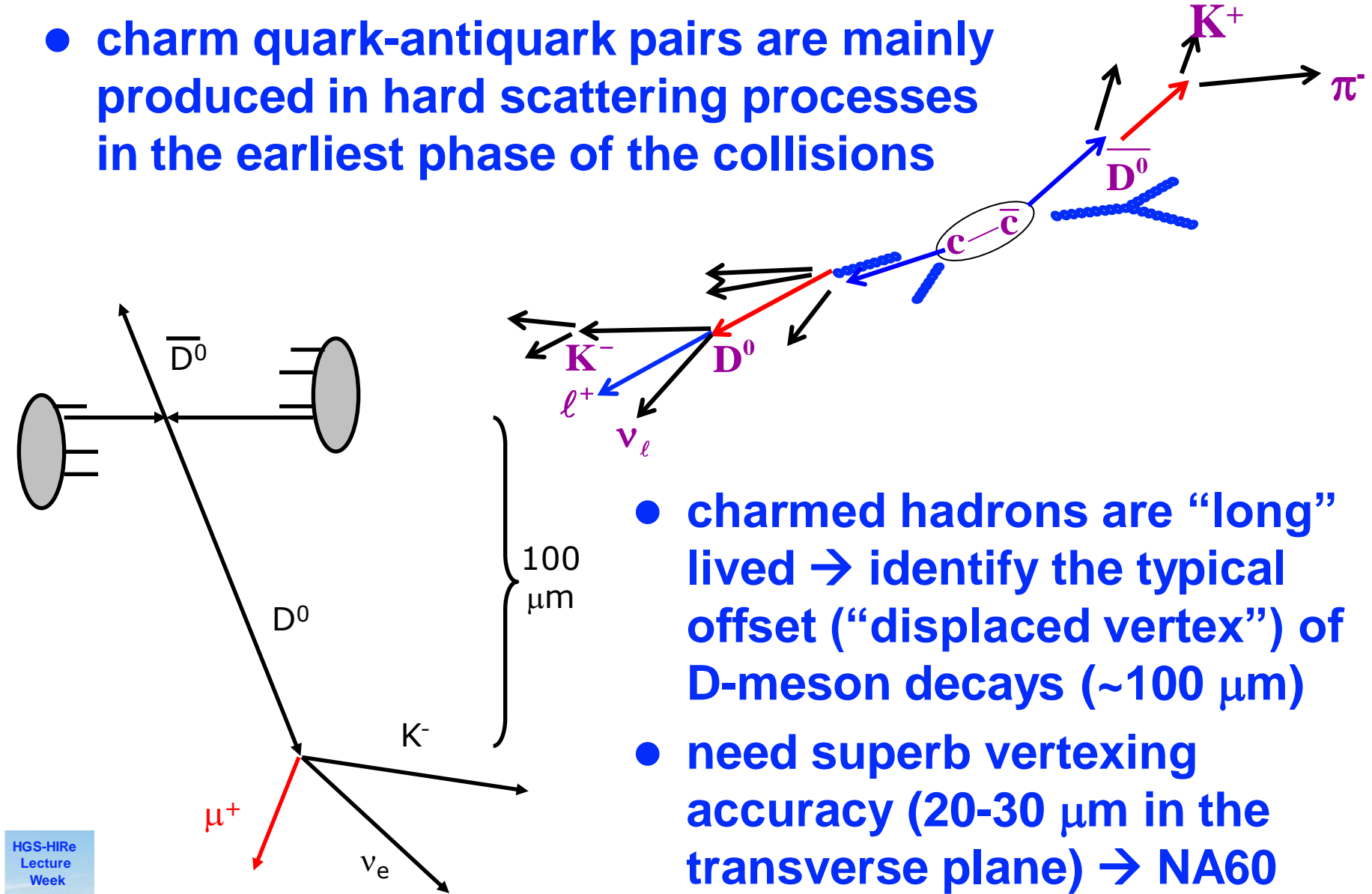
- NA50: excess observed in IMR in central Pb-Pb collisions
 - charm enhancement?
 - thermal radiation?



- answering this question was one of the main motivations for building NA60

Disentangling the sources in the IMR

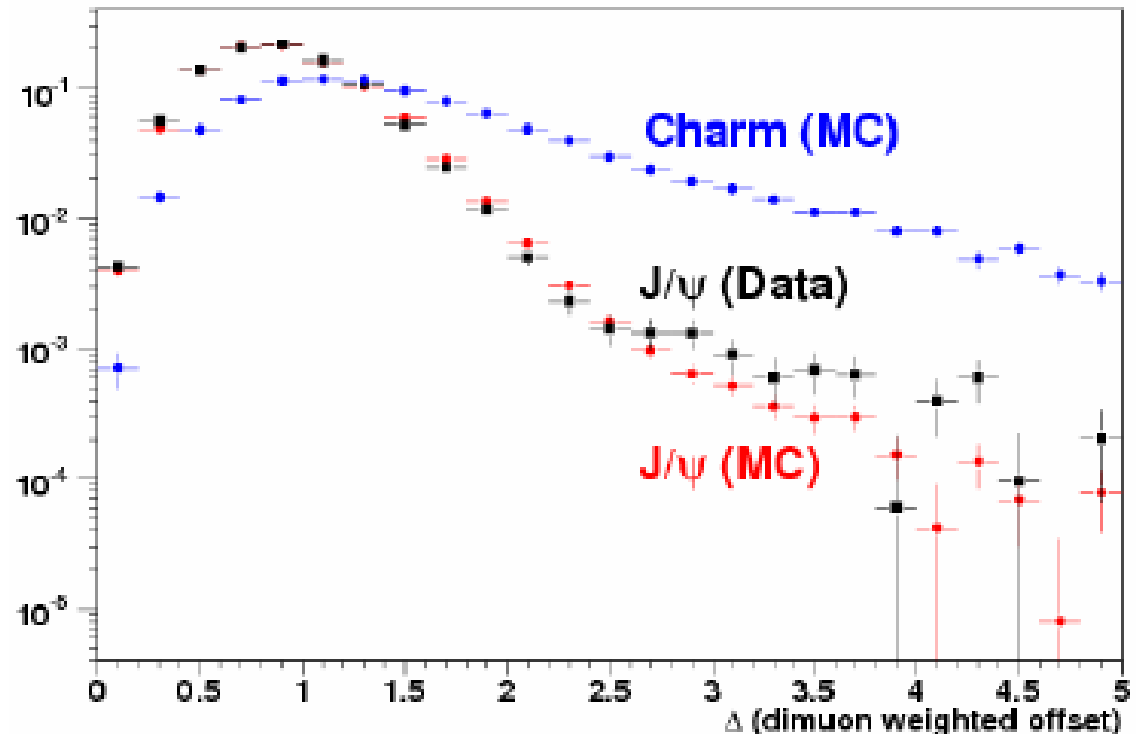
- charm quark-antiquark pairs are mainly produced in hard scattering processes in the earliest phase of the collisions



- charmed hadrons are “long” lived \rightarrow identify the typical offset (“displaced vertex”) of D-meson decays ($\sim 100\ \mu\text{m}$)
- need superb vertexing accuracy ($20\text{-}30\ \mu\text{m}$ in the transverse plane) \rightarrow NA60

How well does this work?

- measure for vertex displacement
 - primary vertex resolution
 - momentum dependence of secondary vertex resolutions
 - → “dimuon weighted offset”
- charm decays (D mesons) → displaced
- $J/\psi \rightarrow$ prompt
- vertex tracking is well under control!

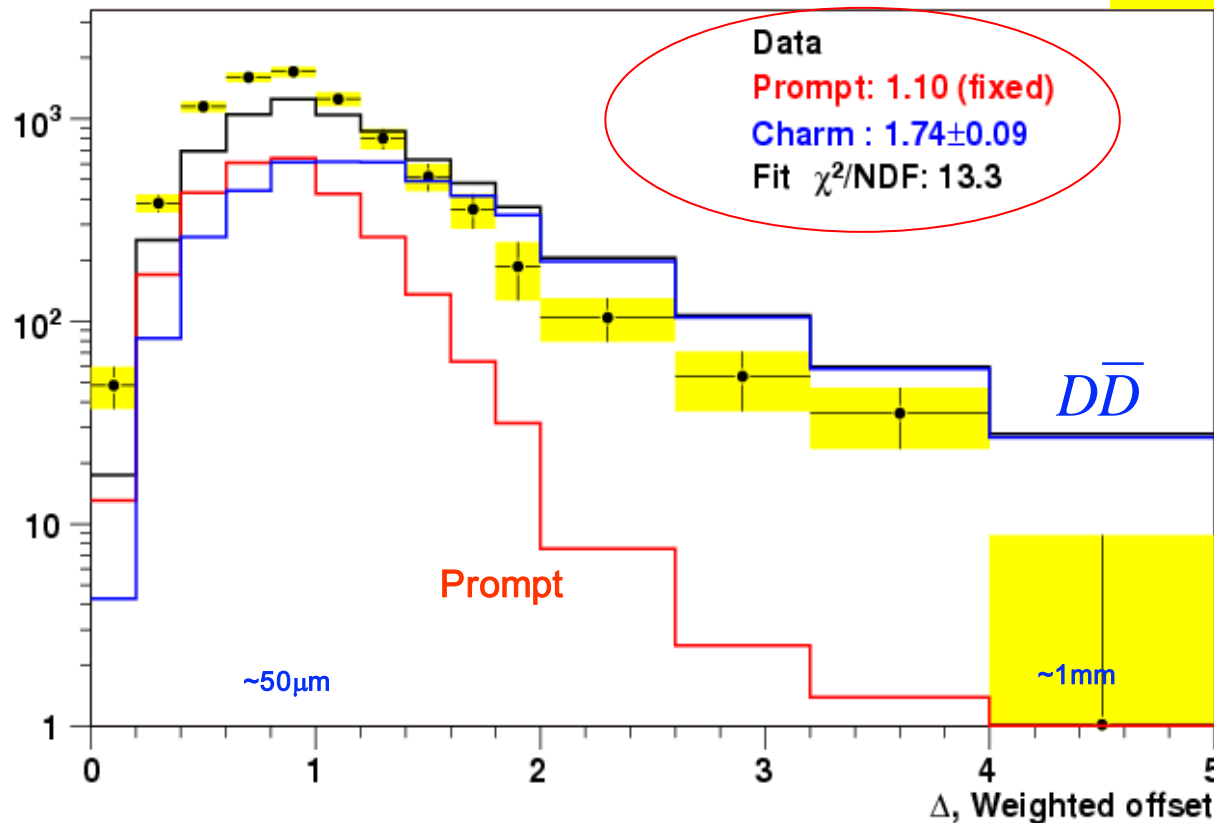


IMR excess: enhanced charm?

- approach

- fix the prompt contribution to the expected Drell-Yan yield
- check whether the offset distribution is consistent with charm

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- charm can't describe the small offset region!

How many prompt pairs are needed?

- approach

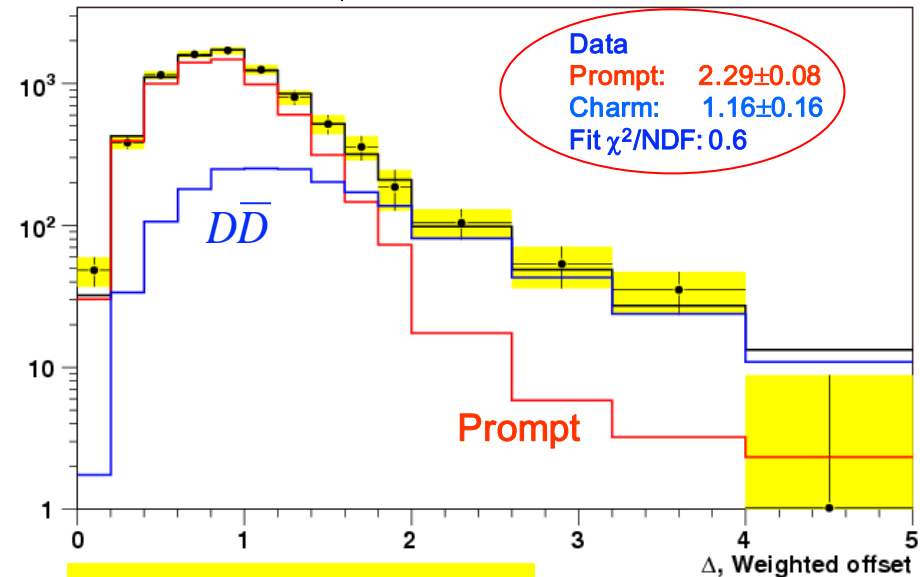
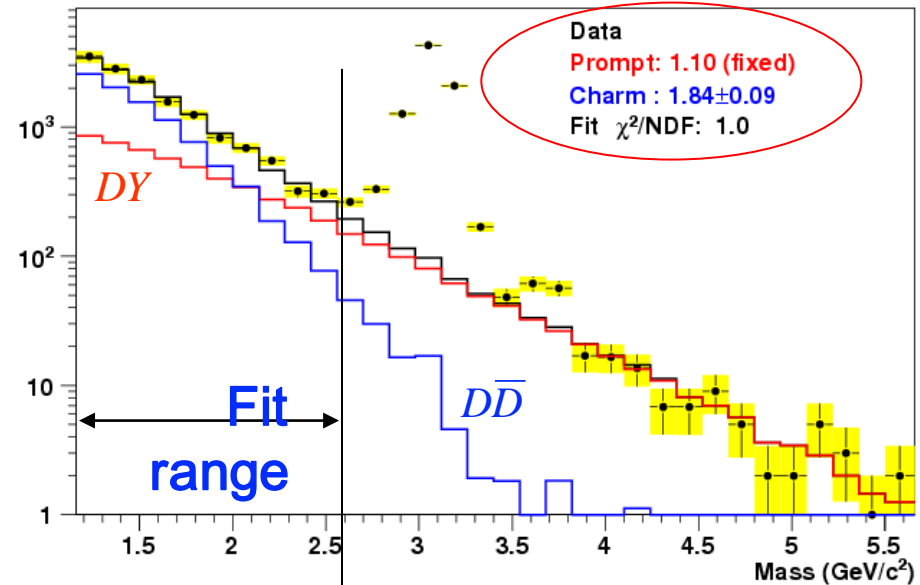
- fit offset distribution with both charm and prompt contributions as free parameters

- prompt component

- ~2.4 times larger than Drell-Yan contribution

- charm component

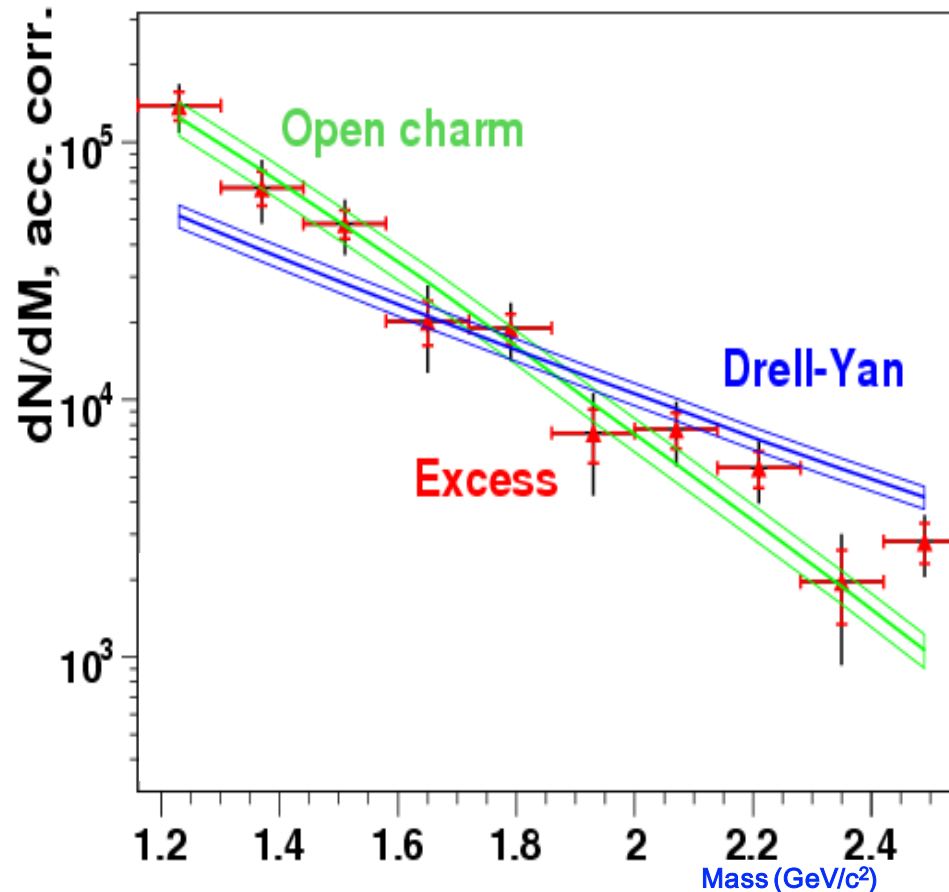
- ~70% of the yield extrapolated from NA50's p-A data



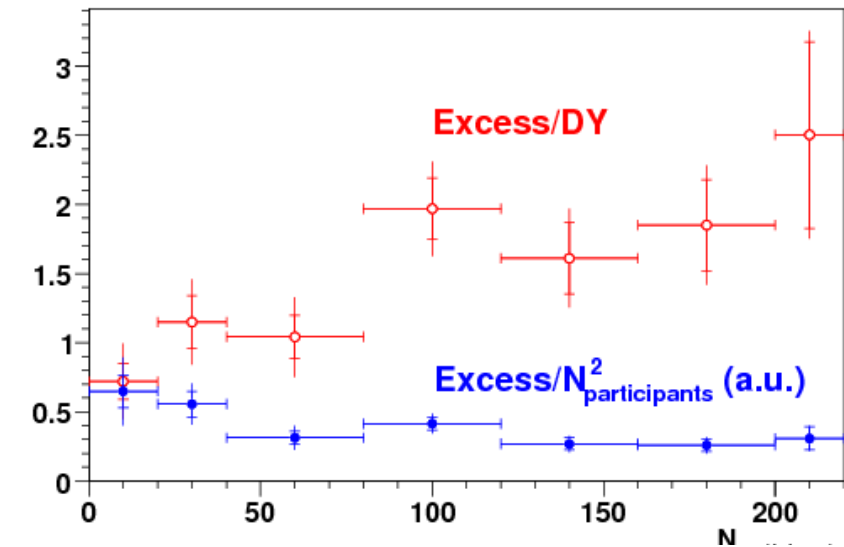
Eur.Phys.J. C59 (2009) 607

Decomposition of mass spectrum

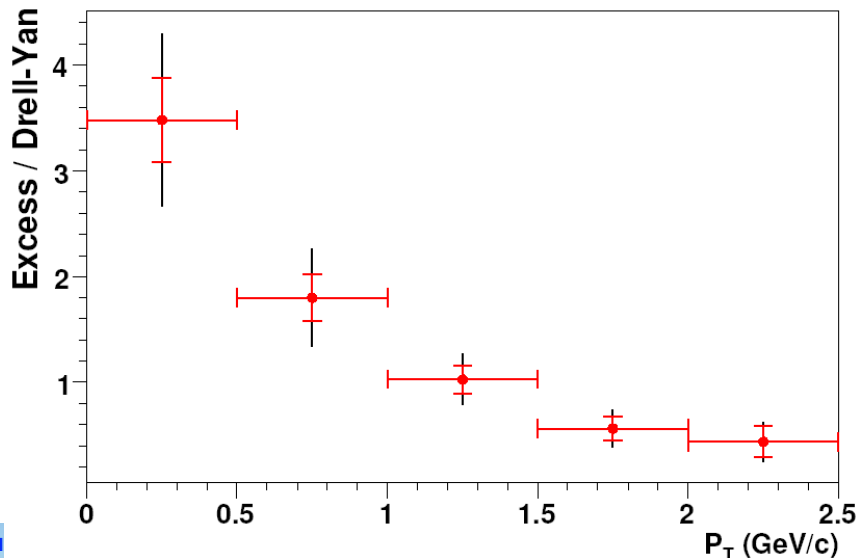
- IMR: $1.16 < M < 2.56 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ (between ϕ and J/ψ)
- definition of excess
 - $\text{excess} = \text{signal} - [\text{Drell-Yan} (1.0 \pm 0.1) + \text{Charm} (0.7 \pm 0.15)]$



Centrality & p_T dependence of IMR excess



- increase more than proportional to N_{part}
- but also more than proportional to N_{coll} !



- p_T distribution is significantly softer than the (hard) Drell-Yan contribution: rules out higher-twist DY? [Qiu, Zhang, Phys. Lett. B 525, (2002) 265]

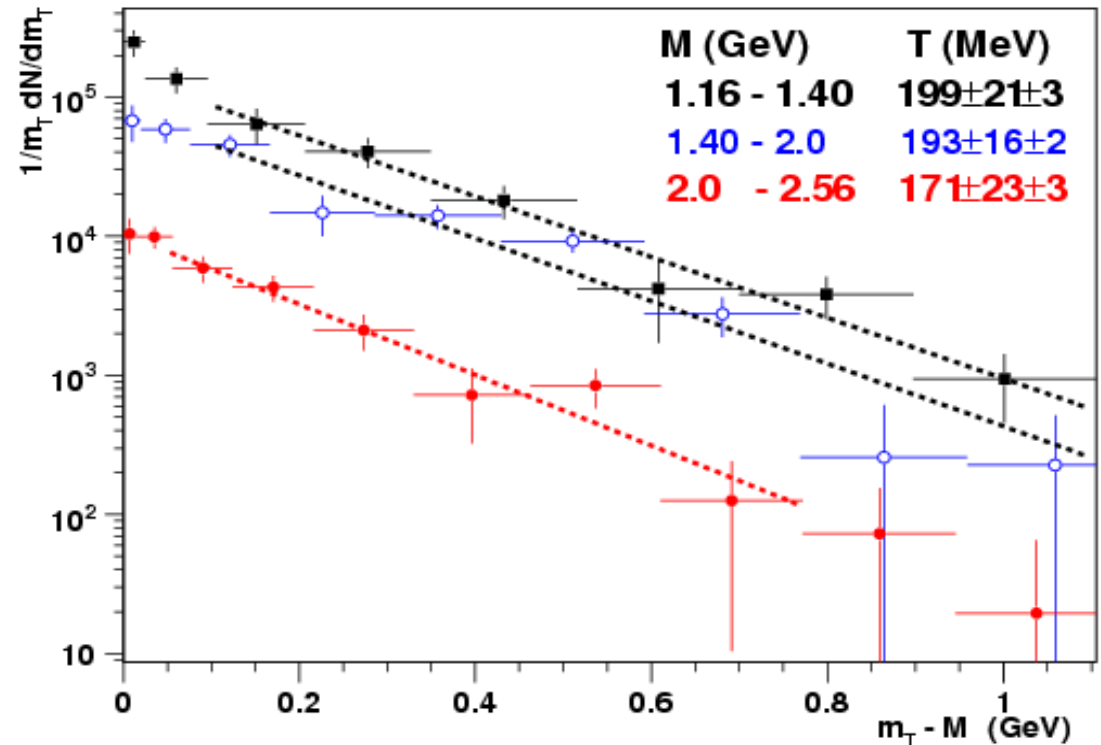
More detailed look at p_T dependence

- investigate excess in different mass regions as function of m_T
 - fit with exponential function (shown for IMR)
 - extract T_{eff} slope parameter

$$\frac{dN}{m_T dm_T} \propto e^{-m_T/T_{\text{eff}}}$$

- $\langle T_{\text{eff}} \rangle \sim 190 \text{ MeV}$

- is this related to temperature?
- if so, this is close to the critical temperature at which the QCD phase transition occurs



Interpretation of T_{eff}

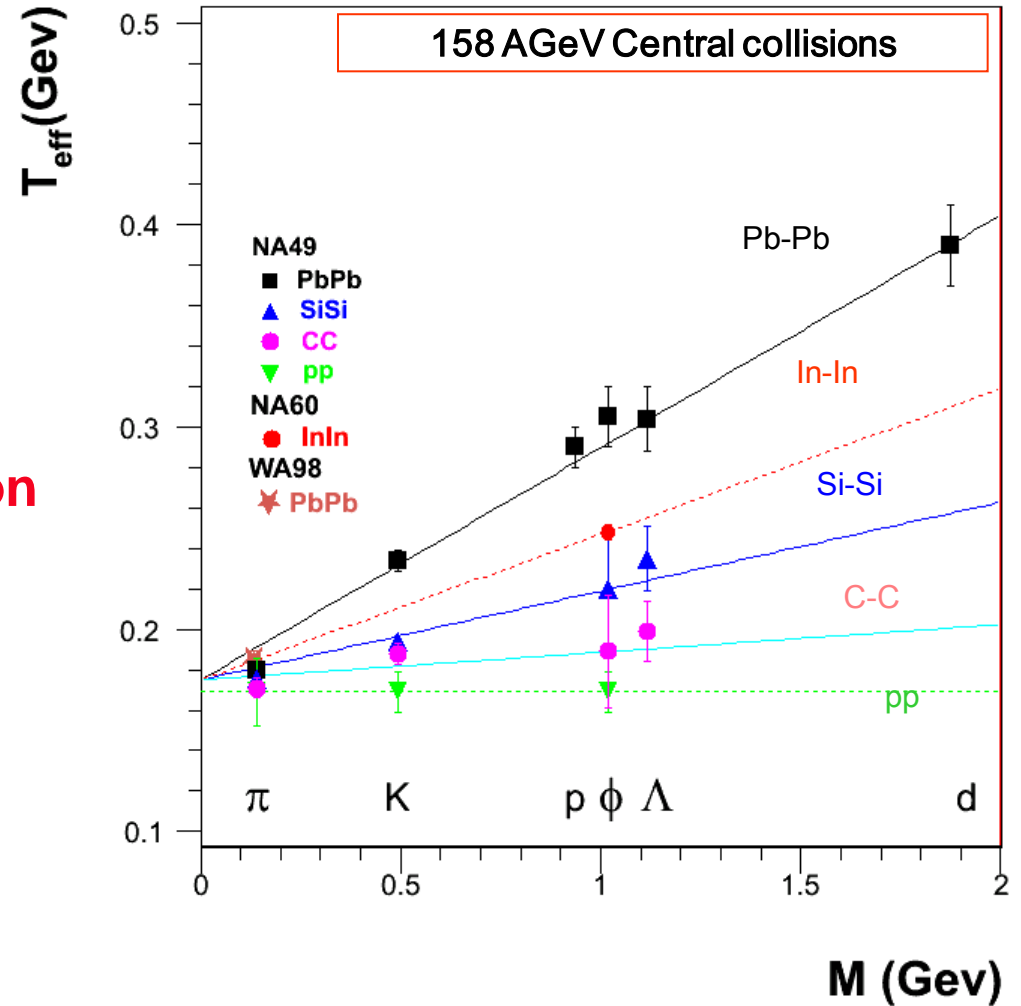
- interpretation of T_{eff} from fitting to $\exp(-m_T/T_{\text{eff}})$
 - static source: T_{eff} interpreted as the source temperature
 - radially expanding source:
 - T_{eff} reflects temperature and flow velocity
 - T_{eff} depends on the m_T range
 - large p_T limit: $T_{\text{eff}} = T_f \sqrt{\frac{1+v_T}{1-v_T}} \quad p_T \gg m$ common to all hadrons
 - low p_T limit: $T_{\text{eff}} \approx T_f + \frac{1}{2}m \langle v_T \rangle^2 \quad p_T \ll m$ mass ordering of hadrons
- final spectra: space-time history $T_i \rightarrow T_{f0}$ & emission time
 - hadrons
 - interact strongly
 - freeze out at different times depending on cross section with pions
 - $T_{\text{eff}} \rightarrow$ temperature and flow velocity at thermal freeze out
 - dileptons
 - do not interact strongly
 - decouple from medium after emission
 - $T_{\text{eff}} \rightarrow$ temperature and velocity evolution averaged over emission time

Mass ordering of hadronic slopes

- separation of thermal and collective motion
- reminder
 - **blast wave fit to all hadrons simultaneously**
- **simplest approach**

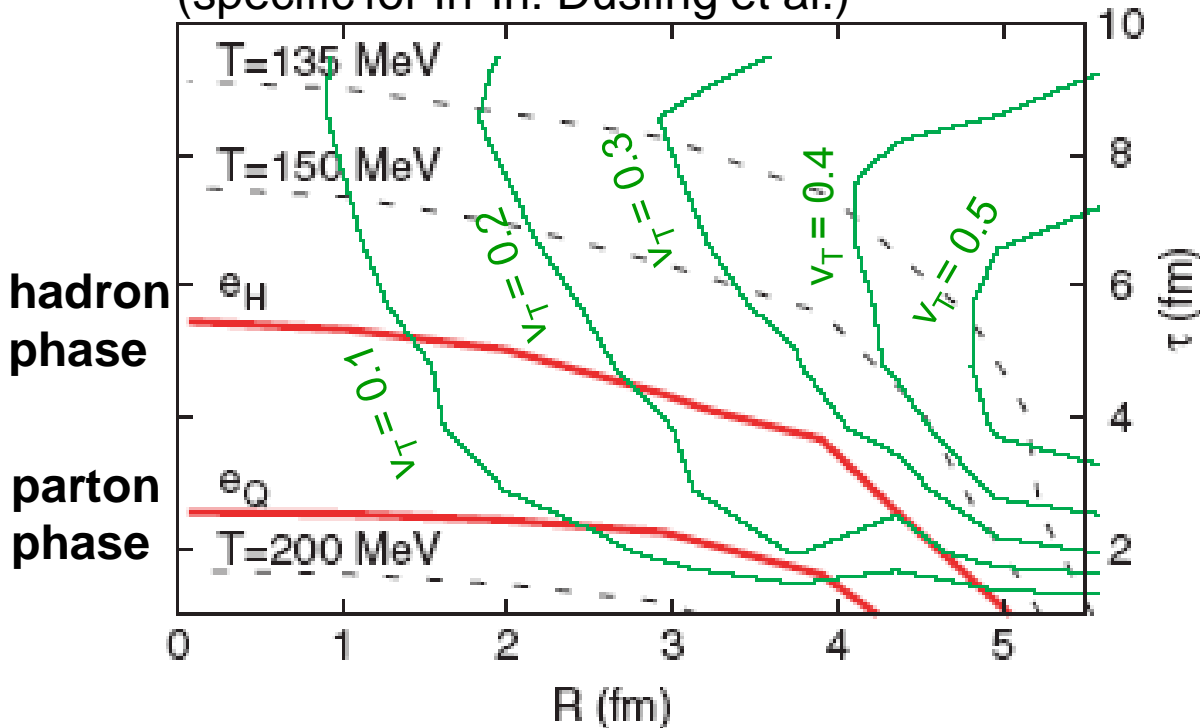
$$T_{eff} \approx T_f + \frac{1}{2} m \langle v_T \rangle^2 \quad p_T \ll m$$

- **slope of $\langle T_{eff} \rangle$ vs. m is related to radial expansion**
- **baseline is related to thermal motion**
- **works (at least qualitatively) at SPS**



Example of hydrodynamic evolution

(specific for In-In: Dusling et al.)

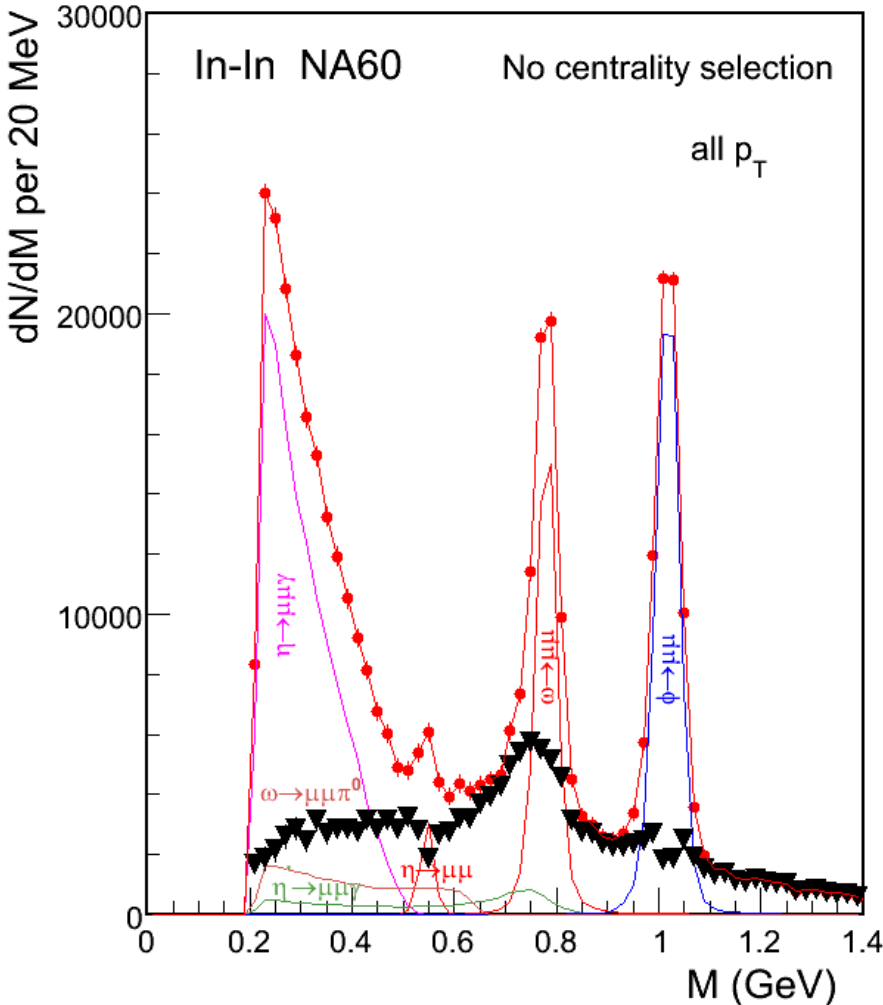


- **monotonic decrease of T from**
 - early times to late times
 - medium center to edge
- **monotonic increase of v_T from**
 - early times to late times
 - medium center to edge

- **dileptons may allow to disentangle emission times**
 - **early emission (parton phase)**
 - large T , small v_T
 - **late emission (hadron phase)**
 - small T , large v_T

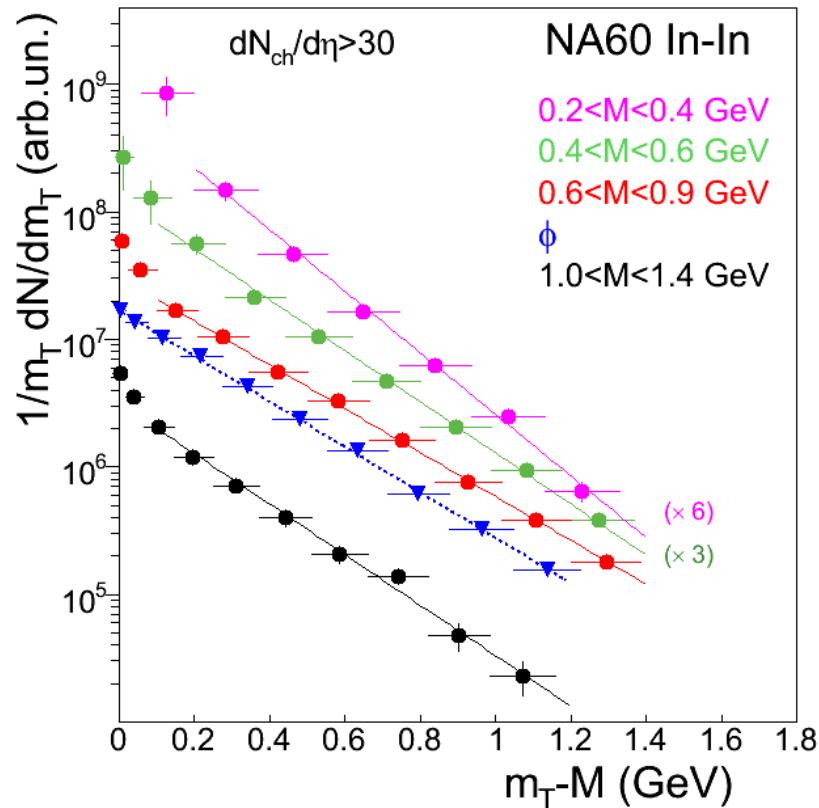
NA60 analysis of m_T spectra in In-In

Phys. Rev. Lett. 96 (2006) 162302

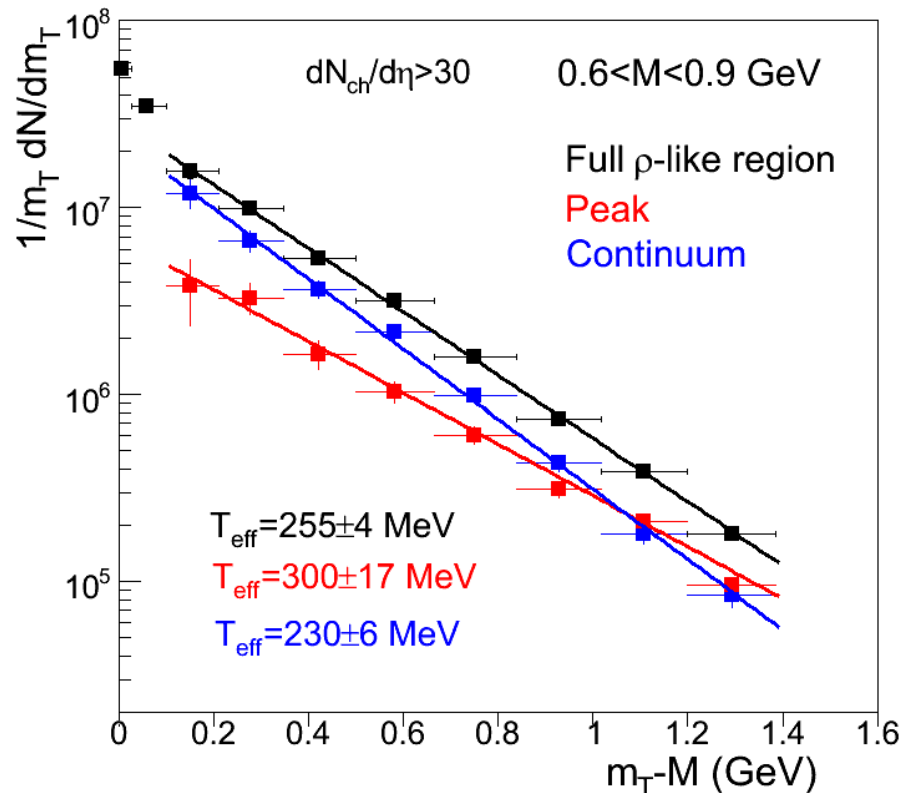


- **decomposition of low mass region**
 - contributions of mesons (η, ω, ϕ)
 - continuum plus ρ meson
 - extraction of vacuum ρ
- **hadron m_T spectra for**
 - η, ω, ϕ
 - vacuum ρ
- **dilepton m_T spectra for**
 - low mass excess
 - intermediate mass excess

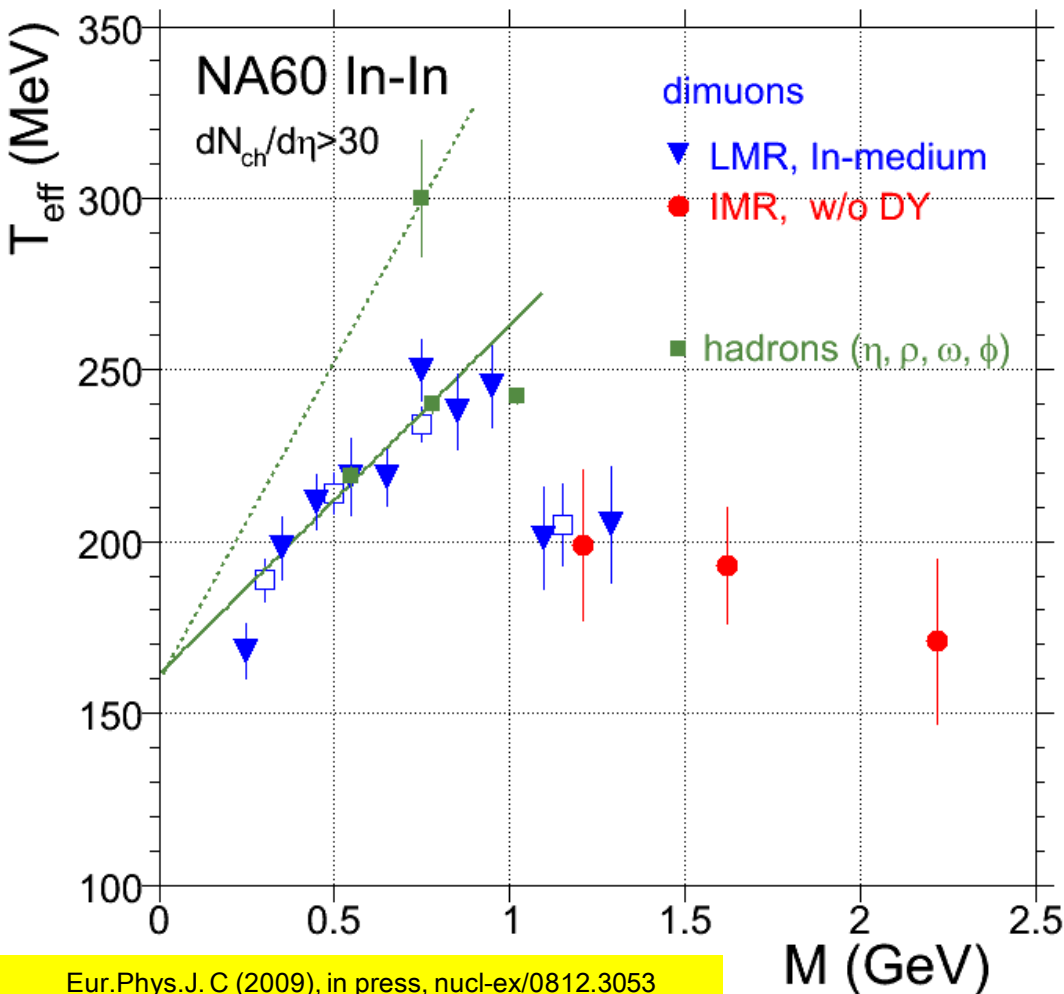
Examples of m_T distributions



- variation with mass are obvious

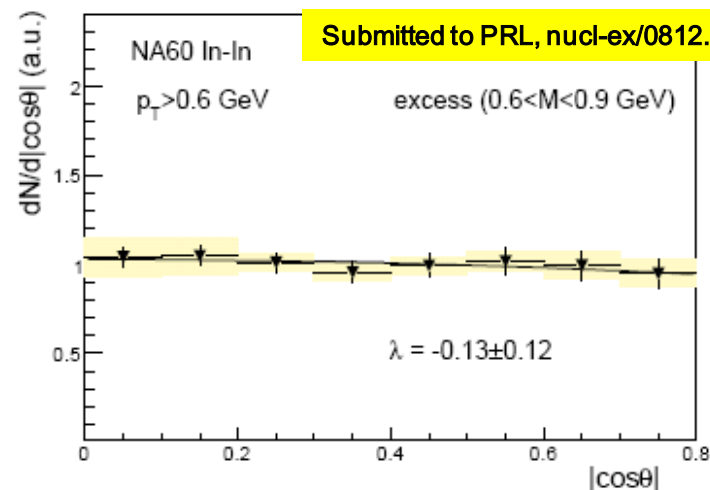
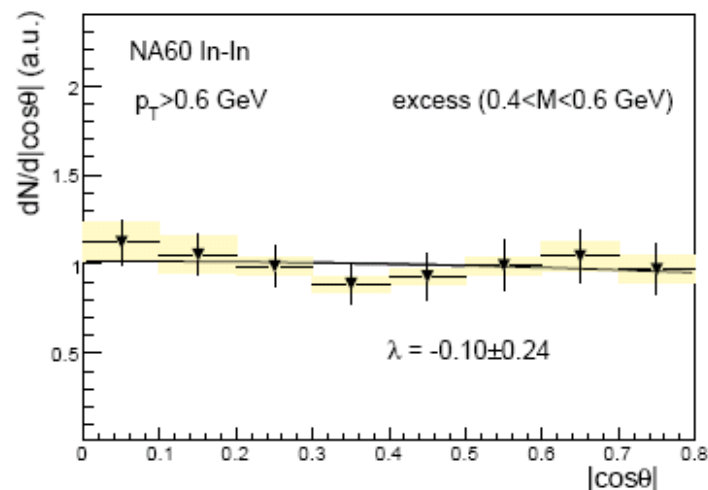


Dilepton T_{eff} systematics

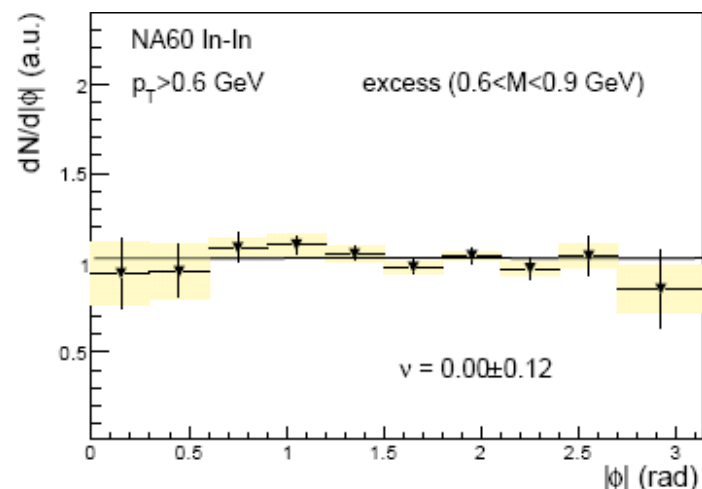
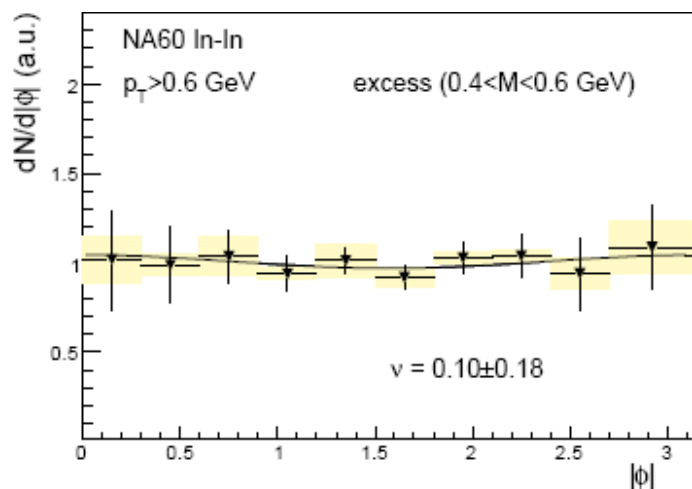


- **hadrons (η, ω, ρ, ϕ)**
 - T_{eff} depends on mass
 - T_{eff} smaller for ϕ , decouples early
 - T_{eff} large for ρ , decouples late
- **low mass excess**
 - clear flow effect visible
 - follows trend set by hadrons
 - possible late emission
- **intermediate mass excess**
 - no mass dependence
 - indication for early emission

Polarization of dileptons



Submitted to PRL, nucl-ex/0812.3100

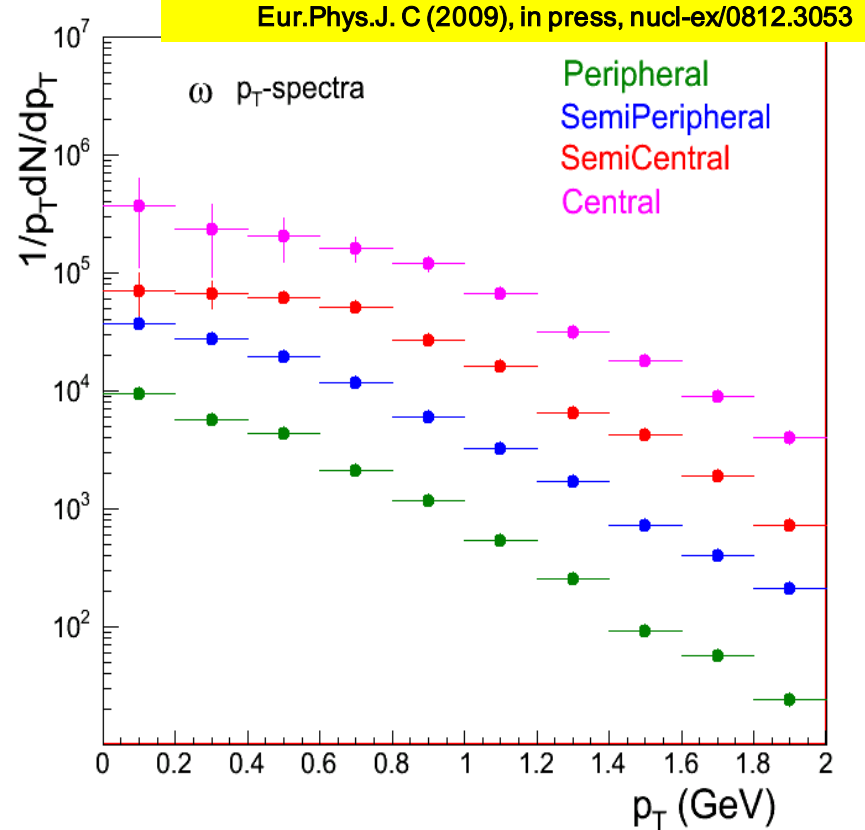
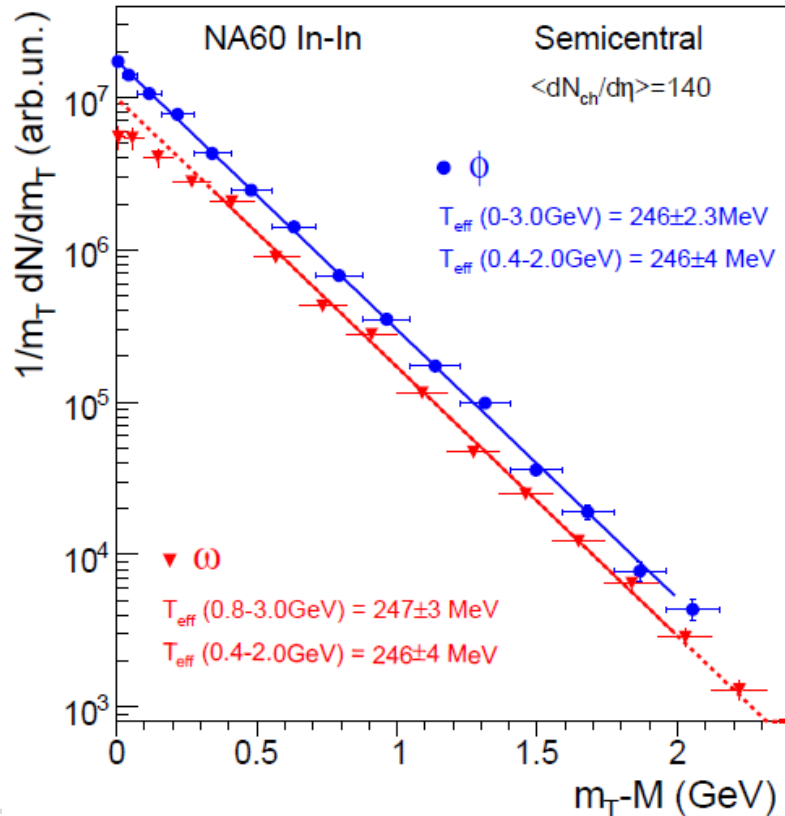


NA60 also measured the polarization (in the Collins-Soper frame) for $m \leq m_\phi$

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \propto 1 + \lambda \cos^2 \theta + \mu \sin 2\theta \cos \phi + \frac{\nu}{2} \sin^2 \theta \cos 2\phi$$

Lack of any polarization in excess (and in hadrons) supports emission from thermalized source.

Evidence of ω in-medium effects?



Flattening of the p_T distributions at low p_T , developing very fast with centrality.

Low- p_T ω 's have more chances to decay inside the fireball ?

Appearance of that yield elsewhere in the spectrum, due to ω mass shift and/or broadening, unmeasurable due to masking by the much stronger $\pi\pi \rightarrow \mu\mu$ contribution.

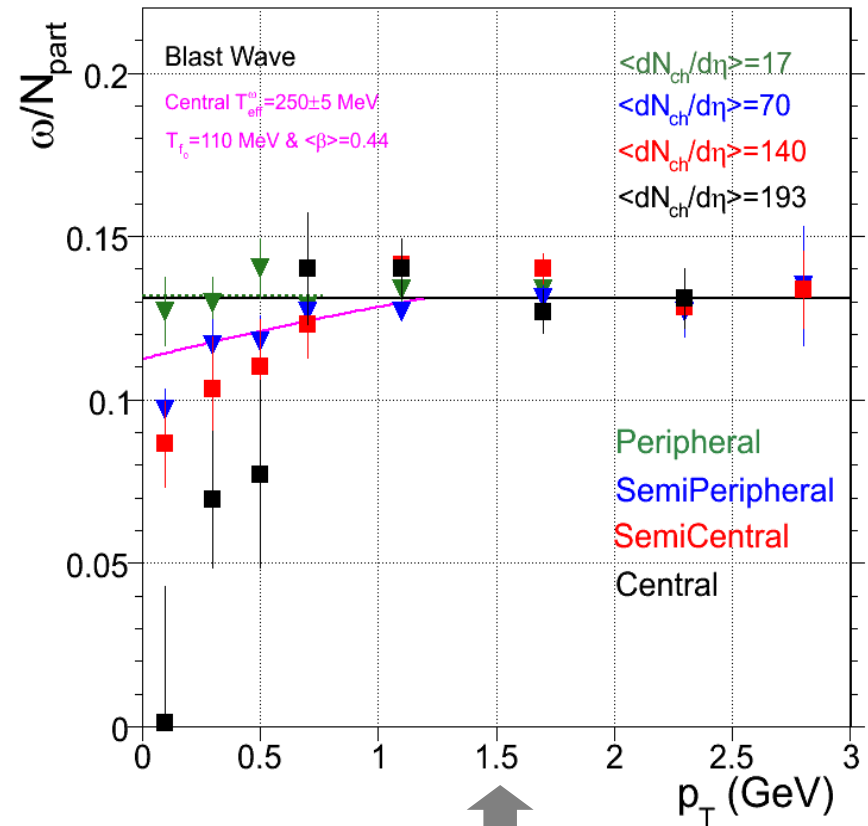
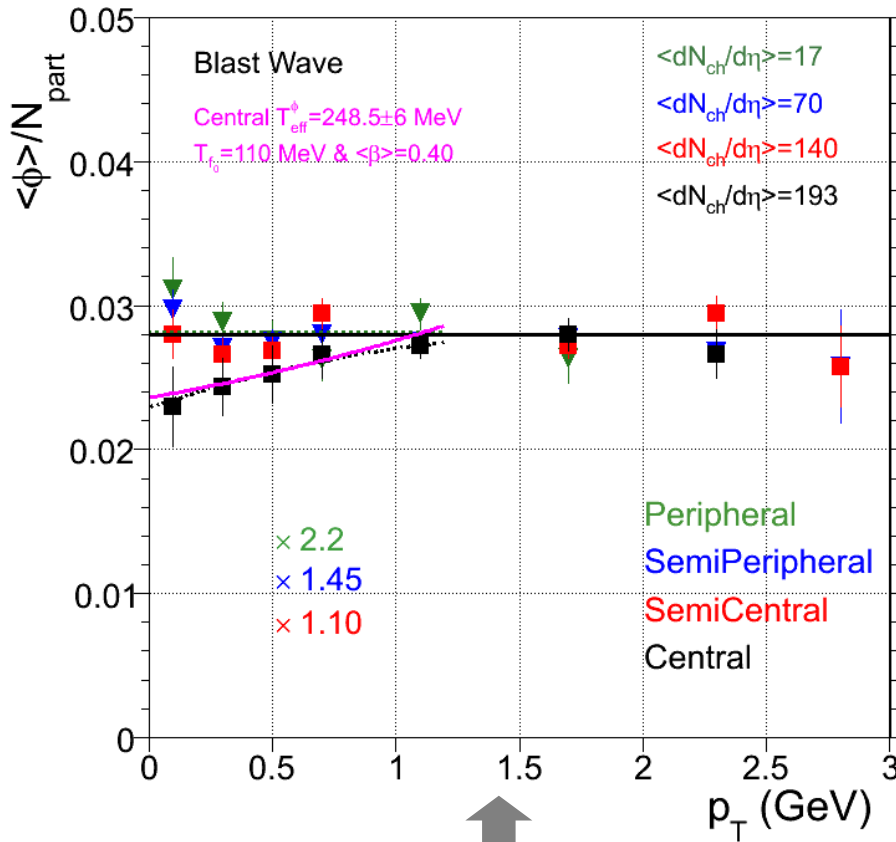
Disappearance of yield out of narrow ω peak in nominal pole position

⇒ Can only measure disappearance

ω yield suppression

Determine suppression vs p_T with respect to $dN/dm_T^2 \sim \exp(-m_T/T_{eff})$ Eur.Phys.J. C (2009), in press nucl-ex/0812.3053
(extrapolated from $p_T > 1 \text{ GeV/c}$)

Account for difference in flow effects using the results of the Blast Wave analysis



Reference line: $\phi/N_{part} = 0.0284 \text{ f.ph.s. (central coll.)}$

Consistent with radial flow effects

Reference line: $\omega/N_{part} = 0.131 \text{ f.ph.s.}$

Strong centrality-dependent suppression
at $p_T < 0.8 \text{ GeV/c}$, beyond flow effects

What did we get from NA60?

- high statistics & high precision dimuon spectra
- decomposition of mass spectra into “sources”
- gives access to in-medium ρ spectral function
- data consistent with broadening of the ρ
- data do not require mass shift of the ρ
- large prompt component at intermediate masses
- dimuon m_T spectra promise to separate time scales
 - low mass dimuons shows clear flow contribution indicating late emission
 - intermediate mass dimuons show no flow contribution hinting toward early emission